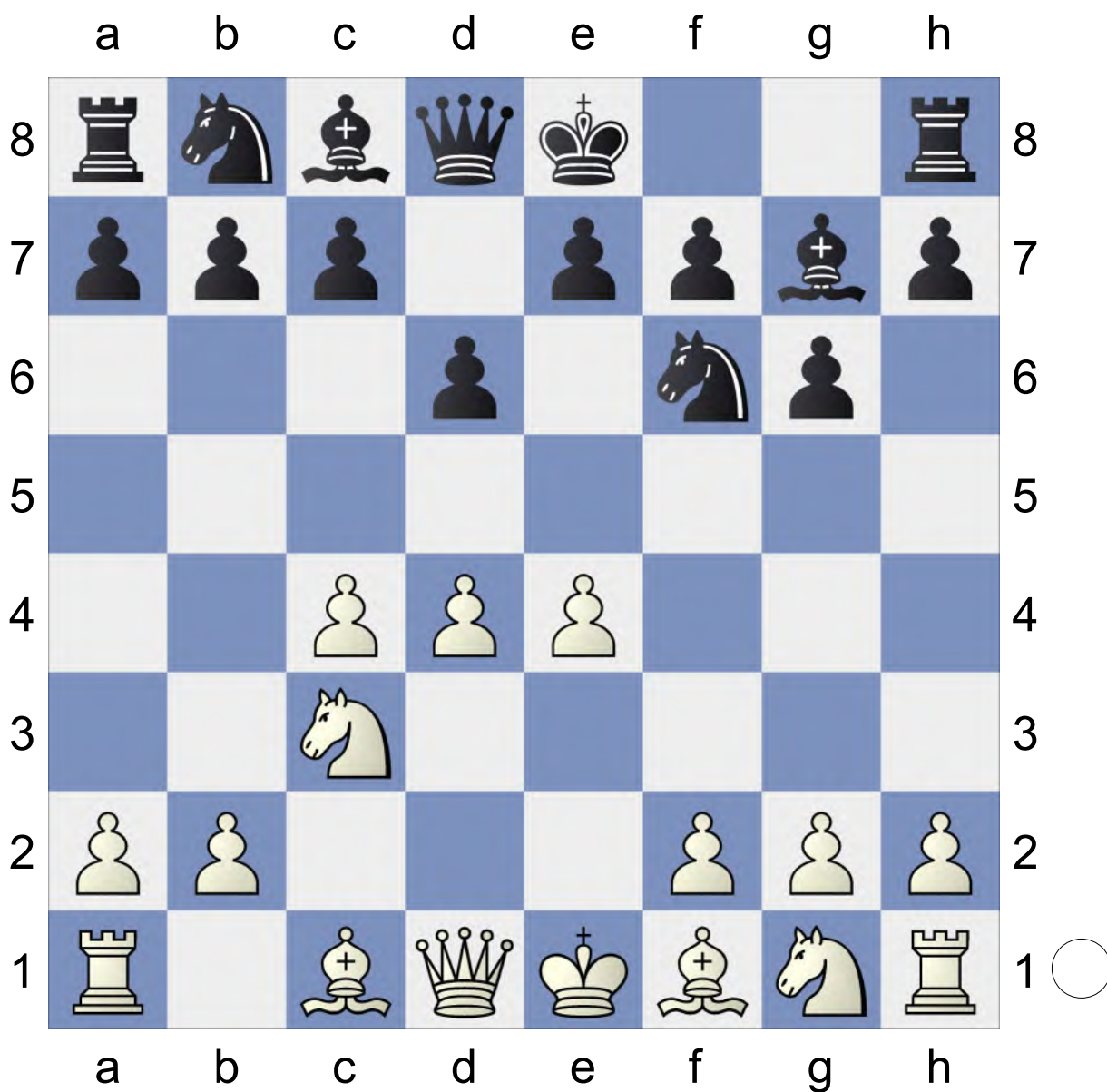




The King's Indian 4 Pawns Attack

Chess Notes 2024



E76

1.d4 d6 2.c4 g6 3.Nc3 Nf6 4.e4 Bg7

	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	
1	Bg5 ¹ 0-0 ²	Qd2 ³ c5 ⁴	d5 e6 ⁵	Nge2 ⁶ exd5	cx d5 a6 ⁷	a4 h5 ⁸	Nc1 Qe8 ⁹	f3 Nbd7 ¹⁰	=
2	Nge2 0-0 ¹¹	Ng3 ¹² e5 ¹³	d5 a5	Be2 ¹⁴ Na6	h4 ¹⁵ h5 ¹⁶	Bg5 Qe8	Qd2 Nc5	0-0-0 ¹⁷ Ng4 ¹⁸	

	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	
3	...	f3 c5 ¹⁹	d5 ²⁰ e6 ²¹	Ng3 ²² exd5 ²³	cx d5 a6 ²⁴	a4 h5 ²⁵	Bg5 ²⁶ Qe8 ²⁷	Bd3 Nh7 ²⁸	
4	f4 0-0 ²⁹	Nf3 Na6 ³⁰	e5!? Nd7 ³¹	Be2 ³² c5 ³³	exd6 ³⁴ exd6 ³⁵	d5 ³⁶ Bxc3+! ³⁷	bxc3 f5	0-0 Nf6 ³⁸	-+
5	...	...	Bd3 e5 ³⁹	fxe5 ⁴⁰ dxe5	d5 ⁴¹ c6 ⁴²	0-0 cx d5 ⁴³	cx d5 Qb6+ ⁴⁴	Kh1 Bg4!? ⁴⁵	
6	...	...	...	...	...	0-0 Nb4!? ⁴⁶	Bg5 ⁴⁷ Qc5+ ⁴⁸	Kh1 Ng4 ⁴⁹	
7	...	...	Be2 e5	dxe5 ⁵⁰ dxe5	Qxd8 Rxd8	fxe5 Nd7	Bg5 Re8	Nd5 Nxe5 ⁵¹	
8	...	...	fxe5 ⁵² dxe5	d5 ⁵³ Na6 ⁵⁴	Be3 c6	Bd3 Ng4N ⁵⁵	Bg1 f5	h3 Nf6 ⁵⁶	
9	...	...	dx c5 ⁵⁷ Qa5 ⁵⁸	Bd3 Qxc5 ⁵⁹	Qe2 Nc6 ⁶⁰	Be3 Qa5 ⁶¹	0-0 ⁶² Nb4 ⁶³	a3 ⁶⁴ Nxd3 ⁶⁵	=
10	...	...	...	...	...	Be3 Qa5 ⁶⁶	0-0 Nc6 ⁶⁷	Rac1 Rfc8 ⁶⁸	
11	...	...	d5 e6 ⁶⁹	Be2 ⁷⁰ exd5 ⁷¹	exd5 ⁷² Na6 ⁷³	a3 ⁷⁴ Nc7 ⁷⁵	0-0 Bd7	Ra2 a6 ⁷⁶	
12	...	...	...	...	...	0-0 Re8	Bd3 Qd7	Qc2 ⁷⁸ Bxd3 ⁷⁹	≈
13	...	...	...	...	...	cx d5 Bg4 ⁸⁰	0-0 Nbd7 ⁸¹	h3 ⁸² Bxf3	↑
14	...	...	...	...	...	0-0 ⁸⁵ Re8	Qc2 ⁸⁶ Qe7 ⁸⁷	Re1 ⁸⁸ Nxe4 ⁸⁹	
15	...	...	...	...	...	e5 ⁹⁰ dxe5 ⁹¹	fxe5 Ng4	e6 ⁹² fxe6 ⁹³	
16	...	...	...	dxe6 fxe6	Bd3 ⁹⁴ Nc6 ⁹⁵	0-0 Nd4 ⁹⁶	Ng5?! ⁹⁷ e5 ⁹⁸	f5 ⁹⁹ h6 ¹⁰⁰	-+

	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
17	...	...	...	...	Bd3	h3 ¹⁰²	Qxf3	Be3
	...	...	...	Bxe6	Bg4 ¹⁰¹	Bxf3	Nc6	Nb4 ¹⁰³

¹ **5.Nf3** - Line 157

5.f3= - Line 153

5.Be2= - Line 156

5.h3= - Line 152

5.Bd3= - Line 152

5.h4 c5

[5...h5 6.Bg5 0-0 7.Qd2 (7.f3 c5 8.d5 a6 9.a4 Qa5 10.Bd2 e6 11.Nge2 exd5 12.Nxd5 Qd8 13.Bg5 Be6 14.Nec3 Nc6 15.Qd2 Nd4= The chances are roughly equal, though better players should feel more comfortable. A. Morozevich - Wang Hao, Beijing (blitz) 2012) 7...Nbd7 8.Be2 c5 9.d5 Ne5 10.Bh6 (C. Crouch - M. Huberty, Coulsdon 1999) Bxh6 11.Qxh6 Qa5 12.Qd2 Qb4 13.b3 b5 14.Nf3 Nxf3+ 15.gxf3 bxc4 16.Bxc4 Qa5]

[5...Nbd7 6.Be2 e5 7.d5 Nc5 8.Qc2 0-0 (8...h5 9.b4 Ncd7 10.Rb1 a5 11.a3 axb4 12.axb4= The position is objectively equal, although a touch more comfortable for White. Z. Azmaiparashvili - T. Radjabov, Benidorm (rapid) 2003) 9.Be3 Qe8 10.a3 Bd7 11.h5 Nxh5 12.Bxh5 gxh5 13.Qd1 f5 14.Bxc5 dxc5 15.Qxh5 Qxh5 16.Rxh5 fxe4 17.Nxe4 Bf5 18.Rh4= The position is objectively equal, although a touch more comfortable for White. Stockfish 141114 - DON 131214, Internet (rapid) 2014]

6.d5 e6 7.Be2

[7.dxe6 Bxe6 8.Be2 Nc6 9.Nf3 0-0 10.Bf4 Re8 11.0-0 (Gothmog 1.0b - Alaric 707, Internet (blitz) 2014) (11.Bxd6?! Qa5 12.0-0 Rad8 Black has more than adequate compensation for material deficit. M. Kazhgaleyev - T. Radjabov, Khanty-Mansiysk 2005) 11...Nd4 12.Nxd4 cxd4 13.Qxd4 Nd5! 14.Qd2 Nxf4 15.Qxf4 Rc8 Black has the initiative.]

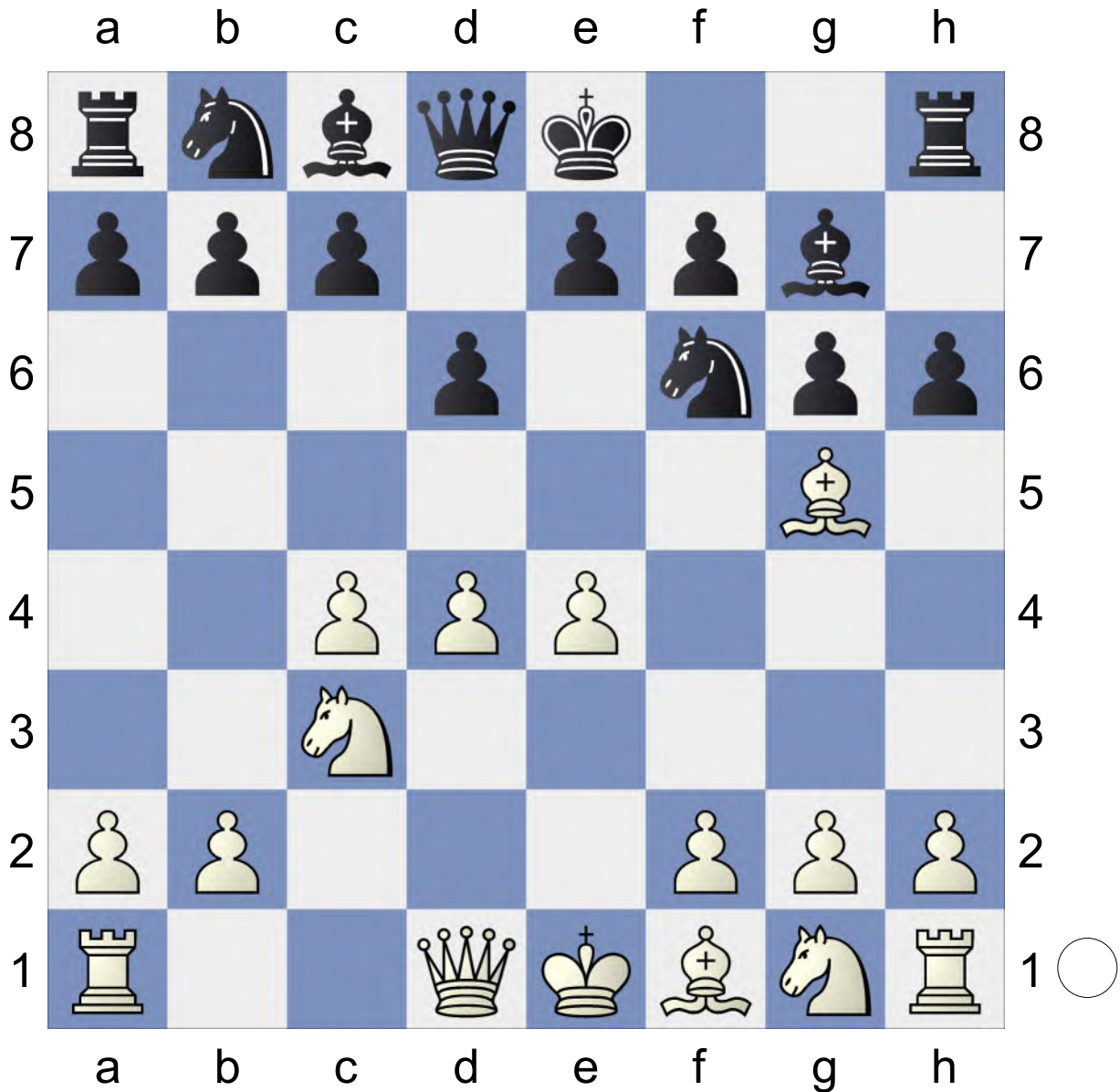
7...exd5 8.exd5 0-0 9.h5 Re8 10.hxg6 fxc6

[10...hxg6 11.Bg5 Qb6 12.b3 (12.Qd2 Ne4 13.Nxe4 Rxe4 14.f3 (R. Rapport - N. Grandelius, Malmo 2013) Re8 15.0-0-0 Bd7 16.g4 Ba4 17.Rf1 Na6= This position is very complicated, which favors better players.) 12...Qa5 13.Bd2 Bf5 14.Kf1 Na6 15.a3 Qd8= This position is very complicated, which favors better players.]

11.Kf1 Nbd7 12.Nf3 (P. Danek - P. Pasko, Slovakia 1996) 12...Qe7= The chances are roughly equal, though better players should feel more comfortable.

² **5...h6** [Chapter]

(Diagram)



6.Bh4

[worse move is 6.Be3 Ng4 7.Bc1

A) 7...e5 8.d5 f5

A1) 9.Be2 Nf6 10.exf5

A1a) 10...Bxf5 11.Nf3 (Stockfish 2.1.1 - Houdini 2.0c, Internet 2011)
 (11.g4 Bd7 12.Qc2 e4 (I. Sokolov - A. Volokitin, Istanbul 2003) 13.h3
 Qe7 14.Be3 g5 15.0-0-0 Na6 16.Bf1 0-0-0 17.Nge2 h5= with mutual
 play.) 11...0-0 12.Nh4 Ne4 13.Nxf5 Nxc3 14.Nxh6+ Bxh6 15.bxc3±
 White has a lasting advantage.;

A1b) 10...gxf5 11.Bh5+ (11.Nf3 0-0 12.0-0 Na6 13.g3 Nc5 14.Nh4
 (A. Ipatov - E. Sanchez Jerez, Barbera del Valles 2009) f4 15.Qc2 a5=
 The position is objectively equal, but very difficult to play for both sides.)

A1b1) 11...Kf8 12.Be2 Na6 (12...f4 13.Nf3 Bf5 14.Nh4! Bh7

15.Bd3± White has the initiative. V. Milov - A. Fedorov, Baku 2007)

13.Nf3 Kf7 14.Nh4 Rf8 15.Qc2 Nb4 16.Qb3 a5 17.a3 Na6 18.Qc2±
White has the initiative.;

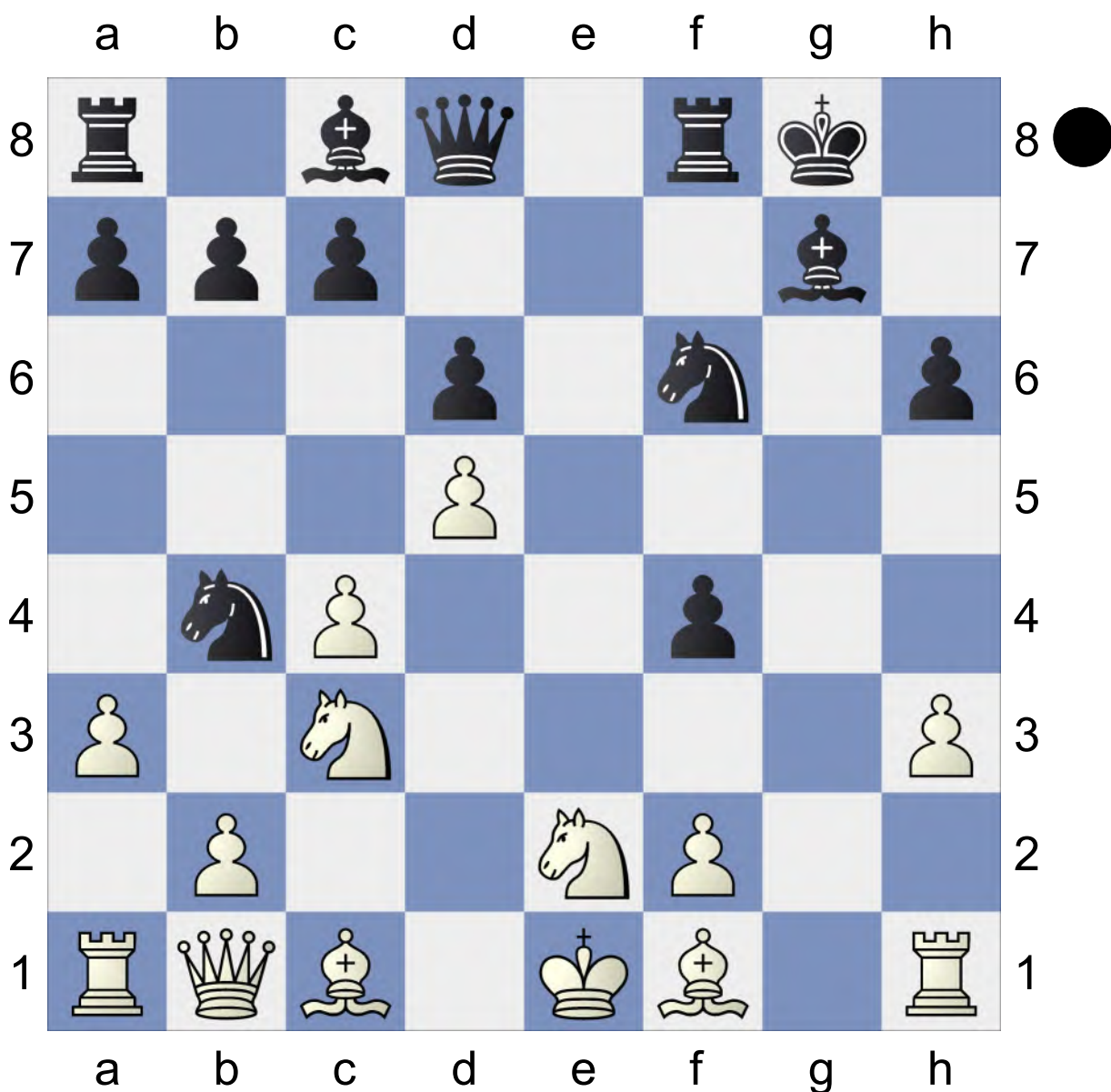
A1b2) 11...Nxb5 12.Qxb5+ Kf8 13.Nge2 Qe8 14.Ng3 Na6 15.Bd2
(worse move is 15.0-0 (I. Sokolov - V. Ivanchuk, Linares 1995) f4

16.Qxe8+ Kxe8 17.Nge4 Nb4= The position is objectively equal,
although a touch more comfortable for Black.) 15...Bd7 (A. Sharevich -
A. Kashlinskaya, Paks 2011) 16.0-0 f4 17.Qxe8+ Kxe8 18.Nge4
Nb4= This position is very complicated, which favors better players.;

A2) 9.exf5 gxf5 10.h3 Nf6

A2a) worse move is 11.Nge2 f4

A2a1) 12.Qd3 0-0 13.g3 (V. Korchnoi - I. Smirin, Odessa (rapid) 2007)
Na6 14.gxf4 Nb4 15.Qb1 exf4 16.a3



Nfxd5! 17.Ne4 (17.axb4 Bf5 18.Ne4 - 17. Ne4 Bf5 18. axb4) 17...Bf5 18.axb4 Trajko Nedev: ' - ' Trajko Nedev: ' - 17. Ne4 Bf5 18. axb4' Qh4! (with the idea Rae8) 19.Rg1 (19.cxd5 Rae8 20.Rg1 Bxe4 21.Qa2 f3 22.Rg4 Qf6 - Black can increase his advantage with accurate play.) 19...Rae8 20.Qd3 Bxe4 21.Qd4 Rf7 22.cxd5 f3 - Black has the attack.;

A2a2) 12.Qc2 0-0 13.g3 f3 14.Ng1 e4 15.Be3 Nbd7 - Black has the initiative.;

A2b) 11.Bd3 0-0 12.Nge2 (Djinn 1.021 - RedQueen 1.1.92, Internet (blitz) 2014) f4 13.0-0 a5= The chances are roughly equal, though better players should feel more comfortable.;

A3) 9.Bd3 0-0 10.f3 Nf6 11.exf5 gxf5 12.Nge2 c6 (Bobcat 3.25 - Andscacs 0.71, Internet (blitz) 2014) 13.Be3 cxd5 14.cxd5 Na6 15.0-0± White has a slight spatial advantage.;

B) 7...c5! 8.dxc5 dxc5 9.Qxd8+ Kxd8 10.h3 Bxc3+ 11.bxc3 Nf6 (11...Ne5 12.f4 Nec6 13.Nf3 b6 14.Be3 Nd7 15.0-0-0 Ba6 16.h4 Kc7= This position is very complicated, which favors better players. I. Sokolov - D. Reinderman, Amsterdam 2013)

B1) 12.Bd3 Nc6 13.f4 Kc7 (13...e5?! 14.Nf3 Be6 15.Be3 b6 16.Nxe5 Nxe5 17.fxe5 Nd7 18.Bf4± Black can maintain equality with accurate play.) 14.Nf3 (A. Schyndel - B. Campant, corr. 2010) b6 15.Ke2 Ba6 16.Be3 Rad8 - Black has a lasting advantage.;

B2) 12.e5 Ne8 13.Nf3 Nc6 (Quazar 0.4 - Gull II, Internet 2013) 14.Bf4 Ng7 15.0-0-0+ Bd7 16.Bh2 Ne6= The position is objectively equal, although a touch more comfortable for Black.]

6...0-0 7.f4 c5 8.d5 Qa5 9.Qd2 e6 10.Nf3 exd5

[10...Re8 11.dxe6 Bxe6 12.Bd3 Nc6 13.0-0= The position is objectively equal, although a touch more comfortable for White. B. Alterman - E. Sutovsky, Bad Homburg 1997]

11.cxd5 Re8 12.Be2 (J. Paradella - J. Emma, Buenos Aires 1977) 12...Nbd7 13.0-0 c4 14.a4 b6= (with the idea Nxe4)

[Chapter]

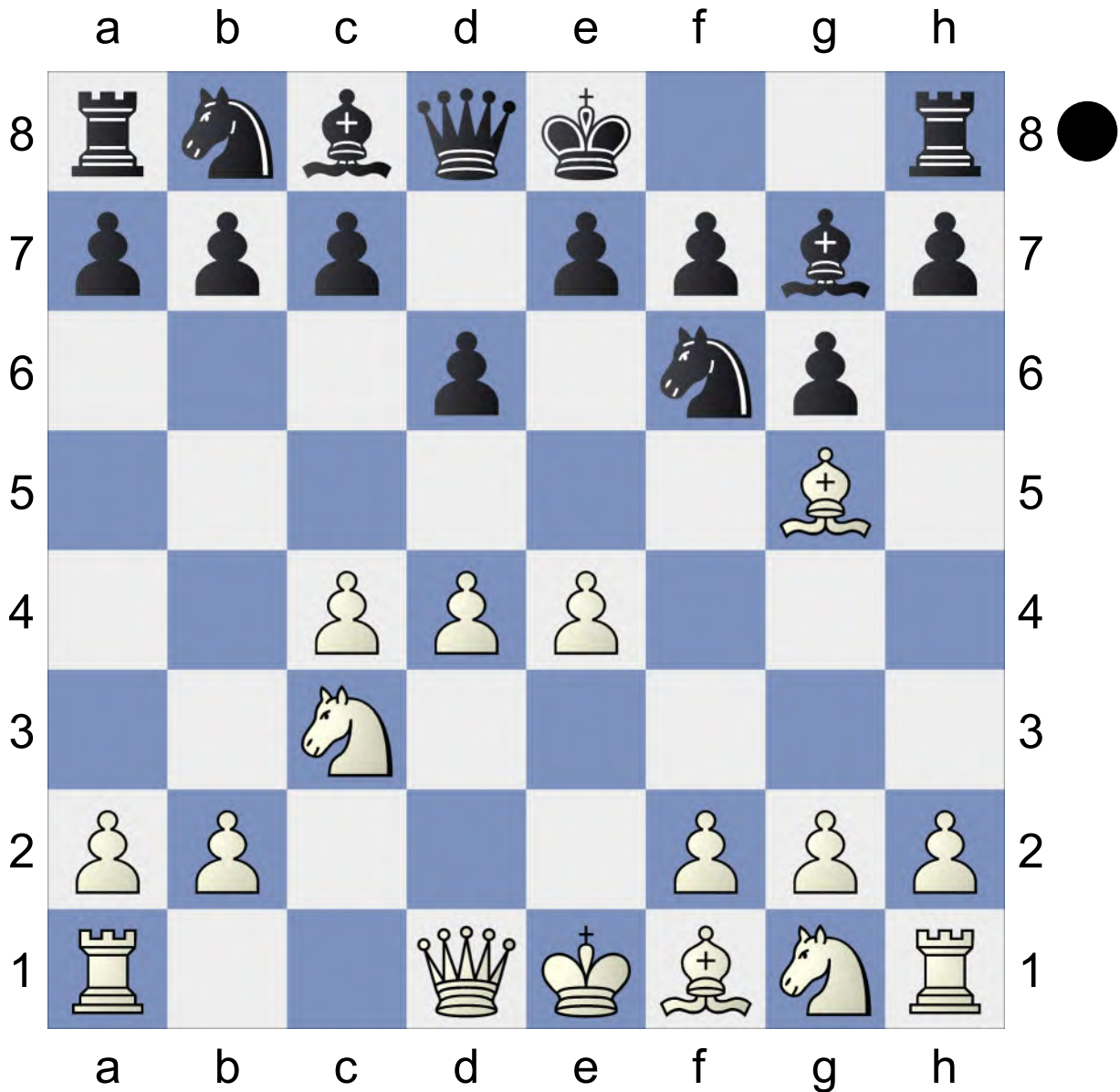
(Diagram)

5...c5 6.d5

[6.dxc5 Qa5

A) 7.Qd2 dxc5 (Fritz 11 - Rybka 3, Internet 2009) (7...Qxc5 8.Nf3 Nc6 9.Bxf6 (I. Sokolov - E. Bacrot, Dubai (rapid) 2014) Bxf6 10.Nd5 0-0 (W. Dean - G. Norton, Internet 1996) 11.0-0-0 a6 12.Nxf6+ exf6 13.Qxd6 Qa5 14.a3 Be6 15.Qf4 b5= Black has sufficient compensation for material deficit.) 8.Bd3 Nc6 9.Rd1 0-0;

B) 7.Bd2 Qxc5 8.h3 0-0 (V. Ravikumar - M. Fuller, Fyn 1980) 9.Bd3 Nc6=



The chances are roughly equal, though better players should feel more comfortable.]

6...h6 7.Be3

[7.Bf4 0-0 (7...Nh5 8.Be3 Bxc3+ 9.bxc3 Qa5 10.Qb3 Nd7 (K. Chernyshov - P. Svidler, Voronezh 2003) 11.Nf3 Nb6 12.Nd2 Bd7 13.Be2 Nf6 14.h3±

White has the initiative.) 8.Qd2 (8.f3 a6 9.a4 Re8 10.Nge2 e6 11.Ng3 exd5 12.cxd5 h5 13.Be2 h4 14.Nf1 Nh5 15.Be3 Nd7 16.g4 hxg3 17.hxg3 Be5 18.Bf2 Rb8 19.Qd2 Qf6= The chances are roughly equal, though better players should feel more comfortable. B. Damljanovic - Iv. Saric, Novi Sad (rapid) 2012)

8...g5 9.Bg3 Nh5 10.Nge2 Nd7 11.h4 g4 12.f3 (L. Degerman - E. Mortensen, Reykjavik 1995) Nb6 13.b3 f5= The position is objectively equal, although a touch more comfortable for Black.]

[7.Bh4 g5 8.Bg3 Qa5 9.Bd3 Nxe4 10.Bxe4 Bxc3+ 11.bxc3 Qxc3+ 12.Kf1 f5

13.h4 (13.Rc1 Qf6 14.h4 g4 15.Bd3 f4 $\bar{f}$ Black has the initiative. B. Spassky - R. Fischer, Belgrade (m/16) 1992) 13...fxe4 14.Rc1 Qd3+ 15.Qxd3 exd3 16.hxg5 Bf5 $\bar{f}$ White can maintain equality with accurate play. R. Sokolowski - N. Rischbieth, corr. 2000]

7...Ng4 8.Bd2 Bd4 9.Nh3 e5= The chances are roughly equal, though better players should feel more comfortable. V. Ivanchuk - A. Grischuk, Beijing (blitz) 2011

5...Nbd7 6.f3

[6.Nf3 O-O 7.Be2 h6 8.Bh4 e5 9.O-O (9.d5= - Line 159 : 5. Nf3 O-O 6. Be2 e5 7. d5 Nbd7 8. Bg5 h6 9. Bh4) 9...a5 (9...g5 10.dxe5 Nh5!? 11.Nd4 Nf4 12.Bg3 dxe5 13.Nf5 Nc5 W. Uhlmann - S. Gligoric, Lugano 1968) 10.Re1 Re8 11.Bf1 c6= The chances are roughly equal, though better players should feel more comfortable. Dao Thien Hai - K. Sasikiran, Subic Bay 2009]

[6.f4?!

A) 6...O-O 7.Nf3 c5 8.d5 b5 (8...h6 9.Bh4 Nh5 10.Qd2 Qb6 11.g3 $\pm$

White has a moderate spatial advantage. Tornado 4.4 - Loop 10.32, Internet 2011) 9.cxb5 a6 10.Nd2 Nh5 11.f5 (11.Qf3 f6 12.Bh4 Nxf4 13.Qxf4 g5 14.Qf2 gxh4 15.Qxh4 Ne5= Black has sufficient compensation for material deficit. V. Korchnoi - J. Nunn, Reykjavik 1988) 11...axb5 12.Bxb5 Qa5 13.Qb3 $\pm$ Black has insufficient compensation for material deficit. Sloppy 0.2.2 - LittleThought 1.052, Internet 2010;

B) 6...h6 7.Bh4

B1) 7...c5 8.e5 (8.d5? Qa5 9.Qd2 Nh5 10.Rd1 (C. Erlandsen - I. Csillik, Budapest 1993) Nxf4! 11.Qxf4 g5 12.Qe3 gxh4 $\bar{f}$ Black has the initiative.) 8...Nh7 (V. Akobian - A. Yermolinsky, Stillwater 2007) 9.exd6 Nh6 10.Nf3 O-O 11.dxe7 Qxe7+ 12.Be2 $\pm$ Black has insufficient compensation for material deficit.;

B2) 7...Nh5! 8.Nh3 (8.Qd2 c5 9.d5 Qa5 $\bar{f}$ - 7... c5 8. d5 Qa5 9. Qd2 Nh5) 8...c5 9.e5 O-O 10.Nd5 Re8 $\bar{f}$ Black has the initiative.]

6...O-O= - Line 153 : 5. f3 O-O Bg5 Nbd7

³ **6.f3=** - Line 153 : 5. f3 O-O Bg5

6.Be2= - Line 156 : 5. Be2 O-O Bg5 6...Na6 7.h4 e5 8.d5 c6 9.h5 h6 10.Be3 cxd5 11.cxd5 Nc5 12.Qc2 Qa5 13.Bd2

[13.Kf1 Bd7 14.hxg6 fxg6 15.Bxh6 Bxh6 16.Rxh6 Kg7 17.Rh4=]

13...Bd7 14.hxg6 fxg6 15.Rb1

[15.f3!? Nh5 (15...Rac8 16.Rb1 Qd8 17.Bxh6 Bxh6 18.Rxh6 Kg7 19.Rh1 Rh8 20.Rxh8 Qxh8 ∞) 16.b4 Qxb4 17.Nb5 Qa4 18.Qxa4 Nxa4 19.Nxd6 ∞]

15...Qb6 16.Be3 a5 17.Nh3

[17.Qd2 'w' Herbert Bellmann. Rac8 18.f3 Nh5 19.Bxh6 Ng3 20.Bxg7 Ncxe4 21.Nxe4 Nxh1 22.Qh6 Qxg1+ 23.Kd2 Qd4+ 24.Bd3 Nf2 25.Qh8+ Kf7 26.Nxd6+ Ke7 27.Bxf8+ Rxf8 28.Qg7+ Kxd6 29.Qxf8+ Kxd5 30.Qg8+=] [17.Bxh6 Bxh6 18.Rxh6 Kg7! 19.Rh4 g5 20.Rh1 Ncxe4 21.Bd3 Bf5! $\bar{f}$]

17...Rac8 18.Qd2 a4

[18...Rf7 19.Ng1 (19.Rc1 Qb4 20.f3 Nh5 21.a3 Qb3 ∞) 19...a4 20.Rh2 Rff8 21.f3 Nh5 (21...g5 22.Nh3 Qd8 23.Nf2 ∞) 22.b3 axb3 23.axb3 Qb4? (23...Qd8!? $\pm$) 24.Nb5 $\pm$ Qxd2+ (24...Na6? 25.Qxb4 Nxb4 26.Nxd6 $\pm$) 25.Kxd2 (25.Bxd2?! Rf6!? ∞) 25...Bxb5 26.Bxb5 Nf6 (26...Ra8) 27.Ne2 h5 28.Rhh1 Rc7 29.b4 Ncd7 (29...Ncxe4+ 30.fxe4 Nxe4+ 31.Kd3 Nf2+ 32.Bxf2 Rxf2 $\pm$) 30.Rbc1 Rfc8 31.Rxc7 Rxc7 32.Nc3!? Kh7 33.g4 Nb8 34.g5 Nfd7 35.Bf1! Bf8 36.Bh3 Rc4 37.Rb1 Be7 38.Nb5 b6 39.Kd3 Rc8 40.Ra1 1-0 Bellmann,H-Yeremenko,A/corr 2002/[Herbert Bellmann]]

19.f3 Nh5 20.Bxh6 Bxh3 21.Rxh3 Nf4 22.Bxf4 exf4 23.Kf1

[23.Nb5 Nd7 24.Kf1 Nf6 25.e5 dxe5 26.d6 Rfd8 27.Qd3 Kf8 28.Qxg6 Rc5 29.Nc3=]

[23.Rh1 Be5 24.Nb5 Kg7 25.Bf1 Rh8 26.Rh3 g5 27.Na3 Nd7 28.Rxh8 Kxh8 29.Rc1 Rxc1+ 30.Qxc1 Qxb2 31.Qxb2 Bxb2 32.Nc4 Bc3+ 33.Kd1 Bb4 34.Kc2 Kg7 35.Nb2 Kh6 36.Bb5 Ne5 37.Bxa4 Kh5 38.Nd3 Nxd3 39.Kxd3 g4 40.Bd7 gxf3 41.gxf3 Kh4 42.a4 Kg3 43.Ke2 Ungleiche ♔er Bc5 44.Be6 b6=]

23...Be5

[23...a3 24.Nb5 (24.b4 Nd3 25.Bxd3 Rxc3=) 24...axb2 25.Rxb2 Bxb2 26.Qxb2 Nd7 27.Rh8+ Kf7 28.Rh7+ Ke8 29.e5 (29.Bd1 Rf7 30.Rh8+ Nf8 31.e5 dxe5 32.Qxe5+ Kd7 33.Ba4 Rc1+ 34.Ke2 Qa6 35.Kd2 Qxa4 '1/2-1/2 Henrich,D-Traut,G/BdF 2004 (39)' 36.Qd6+ Ke8 37.Qe5+ Kd7 38.Qd6+ Ke8 39.Qe5+ Kd7 1/2-1/2 Henrich,D-Traut,G/BdF 2004 (39)) 29...Nxe5 30.Nc7+ Qxc7 31.Rxc7 Rxc7 32.Qb6 Rc1+ 33.Kf2 Ke7 34.Qxb7+ Kf6 35.Qa6 Ke7 36.g3 Rc2 37.Qa7+ Kd8 38.gxf4 Rxf4 39.Ke3 g5 40.Qg7 Rf7 41.Qg8+ Kc7 42.Qa8 Rf4 43.a4 Rb4 44.Qa5+ Rb6 45.Bb5 Rc5 46.Qb4 Rxd5 47.Qe4=]

24.Nb5 Nun bis hier hin machte ich mir um meine Stellung keine Sorgen,im Gegenteil ich dachte Felsenfest an einen Vorteil.Aber in der Folge spielt Schwarz Konsequent am ♔fügel(c-Linie) und drängt Weiß mehr und mehr in die Defensive. Ich muß gestehen das ich mir nicht bewußt bin wo genau ich einen Fehler(oder besser ausgedrückt mehrere Ungenauigkeiten) begangen habe. Wahrscheinlich war es die zu hohe positive Bewertung der Schachprogramme die mich leichtsinnig werden ließ.....ich spielte mal einfach so weiter und bemerkte nicht das Schwarz immer mehr die Initiative übernimmt. 24...Nd7

25.Na3 Rc5! Stark gespielt Schwarz nutzt Konsequent seine Chance am ♔fügel!

26.Qe1 Rfc8 27.b3 Rc3 28.Nc4 Qd8 29.Nxe5

[29.Qh4 Qxh4 30.Rxh4 Rc2 31.Nxe5 Nxe5 32.bxa4 Rxa2 33.Ke1 Rcc2 34.Bf1 g5 35.Rh3 g4 36.fxg4 Rxa4 37.Bb5 Rxe4+ 38.Kf1 Rd4 39.Be2 Rdd2 40.Bf3 b5 41.Be4 Rc4 42.Ke1 Ra2 43.Bf5 Rxd2]

29...Nxe5 30.bxa4 Rc2! 31.Rh2 R8c3 32.Rd1 g5 33.Rd2 Lange analysiert und noch mal gerade das Beste gefunden.Man sehe wie Weiß schnell untergehen kann!Trotzdem;Weiß muß um das Remis kämpfen.Ob es reicht?

[33.a5 Kg7 34.a4 Qxa5 35.Rh5 Kg6 36.Rh8 Qxa4-+]

[33.Rh5? Kg7 34.a5 Kg6 35.Rh1 Qxa5 36.Rh8 Qa3-+]

33...Kg7 34.Rxc2 Rxc2 35.g3-+

[Auch nicht besser ist 35.Qb4 Rc1+ 36.Bd1 Rxd1+ 37.Ke2-+]

35...Qc8 0-1 Bellmann,H (2524)-Oskulski,J (2490)/corr 2005/correspondence 2009

⁴ **6...Na6** 7.Bd3

[7.Nf3 e5 8.Be2 Qe8 9.d5 Nh5 (9...Nc5 10.Qc2 a5 11.Nd2 c6 12.0-0 Nfd7 13.Nb3 f5 14.exf5 Rxf5 15.Be3± Hiarc5 10 - Junior 10, Internet 2006) 10.0-0 (10.Bh6 f5 11.Bxg7 Kxg7 12.exf5 Nf4= The chances are roughly equal, though better players should feel more comfortable. D. Rajkovic - S. Brenjo, Cetinje 2011) 10...f6 11.Be3 f5 12.exf5 gxf5 13.Bg5 Nc5 Fire 4 - Rybka 4, Internet 2015]

7...e5 8.d5 Qe8

[8...Nc5 9.Bc2

A) 9...h6 10.Be3 (10.Bxh6?! Nfxe4 11.Bxe4 Nxe4 12.Nxe4 Qh4 13.Nf6+ Qxf6 14.Bg5 Qf5 15.Ne2 Qe4± Black has the initiative.) 10...Nfxe4!? 11.Bxe4 Nxe4 12.Nxe4 f5 13.Nxd6 (Glaurung 1.0.2 - CM 10, Internet (blitz) 2006) cxd6 14.Bxh6 f4 15.Bxg7 Kxg7 16.Nf3± Black has insufficient compensation for material deficit.;

B) 9...a5 10.Nge2 Bd7 11.0-0 Qe8 12.a4 (A. Aleksandrov - A. Tukhaev, Warsaw (rapid) 2007) (12.Rab1 Nh5 13.Ng3 (J. Gonzalez Garcia - A. Korobov, Beijing (rapid) 2008) Nxg3 14.hxg3 f5= The chances are roughly equal, though better players should feel more comfortable.) 12...Ng4 13.f3 f6 14.fxg4 fxg5 15.Qxg5 Rxf1+ 16.Rxf1 Nxa4 17.Bxa4 Bxa4 18.Nxa4 Qxa4 19.Qe7 Qc2= with mutual play.]

9.Nge2 Nd7

[9...Nh5 10.f3 f5 11.0-0-0 Nc5 12.Bc2 (A. Grischuk - M. Carlsen, Nice (blindfold) 2010) fxe4 13.fxe4 Rf2 14.Rdg1 a6 15.Be3 Rf7 16.Rf1 b5= with mutual play.]

10.f3 f5 11.a3 Nac5 12.Bc2 (I. Sokolov - L. Van Wely, Ter Apel 1995) 12...fxe4 13.Nxe4 Nxe4 14.fxe4 Nb6 15.Bd3 Na4 16.Rf1 Bd7

6...Nbd7 7.Nge2 a6 8.Ng3 c5

[8...c6 9.Be2 b5 10.0-0 Bb7 11.Rac1 Rc8 12.b3 b4 (12...bxc4 13.Bxc4 d5 14.Be2± V. Milov - J. Becerra Rivero, Philadelphia 2007) 13.Na4 c5 14.d5 Re8= The position is objectively equal, although a touch more comfortable for White.]

9.d5 b5

[9...Qa5 10.Be2 b5

A) 11.cxb5 axb5 (11...Nb6 12.0-0 axb5 13.Nxb5 Bd7= Black has sufficient compensation for material deficit. I. Sokolov - E. Miroshnichenko, Chalkidiki 2002) 12.Nxb5 Qxd2+ 13.Kxd2 h6 14.Be3 Nb6= Black has sufficient compensation for material deficit.;

B) 11.0-0 Rb8 12.cxb5 axb5 13.a4! b4 14.Nb5 Ba6 15.Rac1± White has a slight spatial advantage.]

10.cxb5 Qa5 11.a4 axb5 12.Bxb5 Ba6 13.0-0 (I. Nikolaidis - S. Atalik, Karditsa 1996) 13...Bxb5! 14.Nxb5 Qxd2 15.Bxd2 Rfb8 16.Bc3 Nb6 17.b3 c4=

Black has sufficient compensation for material deficit.

6...a6 7.Nf3

[7.Bd3 c5 8.d5 b5!? 9.h3 e6 10.Nge2 b4 11.Nd1 exd5 12.cxd5 c4 13.Bc2 a5= with mutual play. V. Milov - Z. Izoria, Chicago 2006]

7...Bg4 8.Be2 Nfd7

[worse move is 8...Nbd7 9.0-0 Rb8 10.Qe3± White has a moderate spatial advantage. J. Granda Zuniga - D. Anton Guijarro, Madrid 2013]

9.Ng1!? Bxe2 10.Ngxe2 c5 11.d5 Ne5 12.b3 b5 13.0-0 Qe8 14.Rab1=

The position is objectively equal, although a touch more comfortable for White. I. Ibragimov - I. Nyzhnyk, Moscow 2013

⁵ **7...a6** 8.a4 Qa5

[8...e6 9.Bd3 exd5 10.cxd5= - 7... e6 8. Bd3 exd5 9. cxd5 a6 10. a4]

9.Ra3

[9.Bd3 b5 10.cxb5 Nbd7 11.Nge2 Ne5= Black has sufficient compensation for material deficit. N. Clery - V. Rojicek, Czechia 2008]

9...e6

[9...Nbd7 10.Nf3 Qb4 11.Bd3 h6= V. Priehoda - M. Braun, Teplice 2010]

10.Bd3

[10.Nf3 exd5 11.exd5 Bg4 12.Be2 Bxf3 13.Bxf3 (M. Gurevich - V. Baklan, Metz 2003) Re8+ 14.Be2 Nbd7 15.0-0 Ne4 16.Nxe4 Qxd2 17.Bxd2 Rxe4 18.Bd3 Ree8= Equal chances, quiet position.]

10...exd5 11.Nxd5 Qxd2+ 12.Kxd2 Nxd5 13.exd5 Re8 14.Bf4

[14.Nf3 (V. Milov - Z. Efimenko, Gibraltar 2007) Bxb2 15.Rb3 Bg7 16.Bf4 b5!? 17.Bxd6 Bd7 18.Re1 Bh6+ 19.Kd1 b4]

[14.Ne2 Bxb2 15.Rb3 Bg7 16.Nc3 (16.a5 Nd7 17.Nc3 (V. Milov - G.

Guseinov, Baku 2007) Ne5 18.Bf4 Bf6 19.Bxe5 Rxe5 20.f4 Re8 21.Ne4

Bd8!= The position is objectively equal, although a touch more comfortable for

Black.) 16...Nd7 17.Ne4 Rxe4 18.Bxe4 b5 19.axb5 axb5 20.cxb5 f6 21.Be3 f5 22.Bc2 Bb7= The chances are roughly equal, though better players should feel more comfortable.]

14...Bxb2 15.Rb3 Be5 16.Bxe5 dxe5 (Rybka 2.3.2a - Thinker 5.4a Inert, Internet 2008) 17.a5 e4 18.Bf1 Nd7 19.Ne2 b5 20.axb6 Rb8 21.Nc3 Rxb6

22.Rxb6 Nxb6 23.Be2 f5 24.Ra1 Nd7= White has sufficient compensation for material deficit.

7...Qa5 8.Bd3 a6 9.Nf3

[9.Rc1 b5 10.b3 e6 11.Nge2 exd5 12.exd5 (12.Nxd5 Qxd2+ 13.Kxd2 Nbd7 14.Ne7+ Kh8) 12...Nbd7 13.f4 (V. Milov - R. Kempinski, Geneve 2005) Re8

14.0-0 h6 15.Bh4 Bb7= This position is very complicated, which favors better players.]

9...b5 10.0-0 bxc4 11.Bxc4 Nbd7 12.Rfe1 Re8 13.h3 Rb8 14.Rac1± White has a slight spatial advantage. I. Ibragimov - R. Kempinski, Turin 2006

7...b5 8.cxb5 a6 9.a4

[9.f3= - Line 153 : 5. f3 O-O 6. Bg5 a6 7. Qd2 c5 8. d5 b5 9. cxb5]
 9...Qa5 10.Ra3 Nbd7 11.f3 (B. Gelfand - V. Ivanchuk, Monte Carlo (rapid) 2007)
 11...Ne5 12.f4 Ned7 13.Nh3 Qb4= Black has sufficient compensation for material deficit. S. Roa Alonso - J. Paredes Sanchez, Madrid 2002

⁶ **8.Bd3** exd5

[8...Re8 9.Nge2 exd5

A) 10.exd5 Nbd7 11.b3 (H. Banikas - M. Paragua, Beijing (blitz) 2008) (11.f4 a6 12.a4 h6 13.Bh4 Ne4!? 14.Bxd8 Nxd2 (S. Opinca - M. Grunberg, Bucharest 2007) 15.Kxd2 Rxd8 16.g4 Nf6 17.h3= The position is objectively equal, although a touch more comfortable for White.) 11...Ne5 12.Bc2 Bg4 13.O-O h6 14.Bxh6 Bxe2 15.Nxe2 Nxc4! 16.bxc4 Bxh6 17.Qxh6 Rxe2= Black can equalize with relative ease.;

B) 10.Nxd5 Be6 11.O-O Bxd5 12.exd5 Nbd7 13.Nc3± White has a slight spatial advantage. A. Hauchard - C. Ionescu, Bucharest 1993]

9.cxd5

[9.exd5

A) 9...Nbd7 10.Nf3 (10.f4?! a6 11.Nge2 b5! 12.cxb5 Qc7 13.bxa6 c4 14.Bc2 Qb6≠ Black has more than adequate compensation for material deficit. White's king is stuck in the center. Hannibal 1.3 - Stockfish 100913, Internet 2013) 10...Re8+ 11.Be2 (Y. Nikolaevsky - Y. Kots, Kiev 1970) b5!? 12.cxb5 Bb7 13.O-O Nb6= Black has sufficient compensation for material deficit.;

B) 9...a6 10.a4 (J. Sarkar - H. Nakamura, New York 2003) Qa5 11.Bf4 b5! 12.cxb5 Bb7 13.Nf3 Re8+ 14.Be3 Ng4= Black has sufficient compensation for material deficit.]

9...a6

[9...Re8 10.Nge2 Nbd7 11.O-O a6 12.a4= - 9... a6 10. a4 Re8 11. Nge2 Nbd7 12. O-O]

10.a4 Trajko Nedev: '=' Trajko Nedev: '-' 7... e6 8. Bd3 exd5 9. cxd5 a6 10. a4'

10...Re8 11.Nge2 Nbd7 12.O-O Trajko Nedev: '=' Trajko Nedev: '-' 9... a6 10. a4 Re8 11. Nge2 Nbd7 12. O-O' 12...Ne5 13.Bc2 Rb8 (A. Morozevich - V. Topalov, Astana (blitz) 2012)

[13...Nc4 14.Qc1 Rb8 (14...Bd7 15.b3 Na5 16.Rb1 Rc8 17.Qf4 (M. Sadler - R. Kempinski, Germany 2003) b5 18.axb5 axb5 19.Ng3 b4 20.Nd1=

The position is objectively equal, although a touch more comfortable for White.)

15.b3 (V. Milov - O. Cvitan, Bastia (rapid) 2007) Ne5 16.a5 b5 17.axb6 Qxb6 18.Qa3 Qb4]

14.a5 Nc4 15.Qf4!? Nxb2 16.Rfb1 Nc4 17.Bd3 Ne5 18.Bxa6 h6! 19.Bxf6 Bxf6

⁷ **9...b5** 10.Nxb5 h6 11.Bxf6 Bxf6 12.Nec3 a6 13.Na3 Nd7 14.Bd3 Ne5

15.O-O Rb8 (R. Ponomarev - Ding Liren, Danzhou 2014) 16.Rab1 Bg7 17.Be2 g5 18.Nc4 f5 19.f3 Nxc4 20.Bxc4 Be5= Black has sufficient compensation for material deficit.

- ⁸ **10...Re8** 11.Ng3 Qa5 12.Be2
 [12.Ra3 Nbd7 13.Be2 h5 14.0-0 Nh7 15.Bh6 (D. Rajkovic - J. Heissler, Germany 1992) Bd4!= The chances are roughly equal, though better players should feel more comfortable.]
 12...b5 13.f3 Nbd7 14.0-0 b4 15.Nd1 c4 16.Kh1 Ne5 17.Ne3 c3 18.bxc3 bxc3 19.Qc2± (weakness c3) F. Heim - H. Neumann, corr. 1993
- ⁹ **11...Nbd7** 12.Be2 Qc7 13.0-0 Re8 14.f3± Zhou Jianchao - Li Shilong, Beijing 2008
- ¹⁰ **13.Be2** Ne5
 [13...Nh7?! 14.Bh6 f5 15.Bxg7 Kxg7 16.exf5 Rxf5 17.0-0± White has a lasting advantage. R. Ponomarev - S. Mamedyarov, Foros 2006]
 14.0-0 Bd7 (H. Galje - A. Giri, Hilversum 2009) 15.b3 Rc8 16.Kh1 Nh7 17.Bh6 Bxh6 18.Qxh6 Qe7= This position is very complicated, which favors better players.
- ¹¹ **5...Nbd7** 6.Ng3 e5
 [6...h5 7.Be2 (7.h4 a6 8.Be2 c5 9.d5 Ne5 10.a4 Bd7 11.Bg5 Qa5 12.Bd2 Qc7 13.Nf1 e6 A. Korobov - T. Radjabov, Plovdiv 2010) 7...c6 (7...0-0= - 6... Nbd7 7. Be2 h5) 8.Be3 a6 9.f3 (9.a4 (V. Bologan - D. Anton Guijarro, Dubai (blitz) 2014) Ng4! 10.Bxg4 hxg4 11.Rc1 c5= This position is very complicated, which favors better players.) 9...b5 10.c5 h4 (10...dxc5 11.dxc5 Qc7 12.0-0 (G. Serper - I. Nikolaidis, St Petersburg 1993) Nf8! 13.a3 e5 14.b4 Ne6= The chances are roughly equal, though better players should feel more comfortable.) 11.Nf1 dxc5 12.dxc5 h3 13.g3 0-0 14.Nd2 Ne5 15.Qc2 Be6 16.0-0 Qc7= The position is objectively equal, but precise play is required from both sides. E. Freise - G. Wiege, corr. 1998]
 [6...a6 Trajko Nedev: '±' Trajko Nedev: '-' 5... Nbd7 6. Ng3 a6'
A) 7.a4 h5 8.Be2 e5 9.d5 (worse move is 9.Be3 (A. Jussupow - G. Kasparov, Moscow 1994) Ng4! 10.Bxg4 hxg4 11.Rc1 exd4 12.Bxd4 Ne5± Black has the initiative.) 9...a5 (Deep Shredder 12 - Houdini 2.0c, Internet 2011) 10.Bd3 Nc5 11.Bc2 h4 12.Nf1 h3 13.g3 c6= The chances are roughly equal, though better players should feel more comfortable.;
B) 7.Be2 0-0 8.0-0 c5 (8...c6 9.Be3± - 5... O-O 6. Ng3 c6 7. Be2 a6 8. Be3 Nbd7 9. O-O) 9.d5 b5 10.cxb5 axb5 11.Bxb5 Ba6
B1) 12.a4 Ne8 13.Nge2 (13.Bg5 (A. Jakab - C. Zetocho, Hungary 2006) Bxb5 14.axb5 Rxa1 15.Qxa1 h6 16.Be3 Qb8 17.Nge2 Nc7 18.Qa4 Nb6 19.Qb3 Nd7= (with the idea Qb6, Rb8)) 13...Nc7 14.Bxa6 Rxa6 15.Ra3 Qa8 16.Bg5 Re8= Black has sufficient compensation for material deficit. A. Stefanova - Ki. Georgiev, Barcelona 2008;
B2) 12.Bxa6 Rxa6 13.Nge2 Qa8 14.Bf4 (14.Re1 e6 15.dxe6 fxe6 16.Nf4± Black has insufficient compensation for material deficit. P. Tregubov - V. Spasov, Plovdiv 2008) 14...Rb8 15.Rb1 Ne8 16.b3 Nc7 17.Qd3±

Black has insufficient compensation for material deficit.]

7.d5 h5 8.Be2 h4 9.Nf1 Nc5 10.Qc2

[10.f3 Nh5 (A. Fauland - S. Buchal, Legnica 2013) (10...a5 11.Bg5 Bd7 (P. Tregubov - G. Jones, Bastia (rapid) 2011) 12.Qd2 Qb8!? 13.b3 Qa7 14.Rb1 Nh5= The chances are roughly equal, though better players should feel more comfortable.) 11.b4 Nd7 12.Rb1 Nf4 13.Ne3 a5 14.a3 0-0 Black has the initiative.]

[10.Bg5 Bh6 11.Bxh6 Rxh6 12.Nd2 a5 13.Qc2 (M. Prevenios - L. Bergamini, corr. 2000) Nh5 14.Bxh5 gxh5 15.Nb3 Nxb3 16.axb3 Rg6 17.g3 Bg4 18.Qd3 Rf6]

10...a5 11.Bg5 Bf8

[11...Qd7 12.Nd2 (12.Ne3 h3 13.g3 Nh7 14.Bg4 f5 15.exf5 Nxg5 16.f6 Qf7 17.fxg7 Qxg7 Black has the initiative. P. Tregubov - V. Milov, Ajaccio (rapid) 2008) 12...Nh5 13.g3 Bh6 14.Bxh6 Rxh6 15.Nf3 h3 16.Nd2 Black has difficulties reaching full equality. White has a lasting advantage.]

[11...Bd7 12.h3 Bf8 13.Nh2 Be7 14.Be3 Black has difficulties reaching full equality. B. Kovacevic - K. Hulak, Pula 2000]

12.h3

[12.0-0-0 Be7 13.Be3 (13.Bd2 (P. Tregubov - K. Bischoff, Germany 2009) Ng4 14.Be1 Bg5+ 15.Kb1 Bd7 16.h3 Nf6= The chances are roughly equal, though better players should feel more comfortable.) 13...b6 14.h3 Nh5 15.Bg4 Bg5]

12...Bd7 13.Nd2 Bh6 14.Bxh6 Rxh6 15.Nb3 Nxb3 16.axb3 g5= The chances are roughly equal, though better players should feel more comfortable.

5...a6 6.Ng3

[6.f3 c6 7.Be3 0-0 8.Qd2 b5 9.Ng3 (9.Bh6= - 5. f3 O-O 6. Nge2 c6 7. Bg5 a6 8. Qd2 b5 9. Bh6) 9...b4 (9...Nbd7 10.Rc1 Rb8= 1/2-1/2 H. Gretarsson - V. Tkachiev, Erts 2014) 10.Nd1 a5 11.Be2 (H. Gretarsson - B. Magnusson, Reykjavik 2008) c5 12.d5 Nbd7 13.Nf2 Ba6 14.f4 h5= The chances are roughly equal, though better players should feel more comfortable.]

6...0-0= - 5... O-O 6. Ng3 a6

[6...Nbd7 - 5... Nbd7 6. Ng3 a6]

[6...h5 7.Be2

A) 7...c5 8.d5 b5 9.cxb5 0-0 10.Bg5

A1) 10...axb5 11.Bxb5 Qa5 12.a4 (12.0-0 Nh7 13.Bxe7 Bxc3 14.bxc3 Qxb5 15.Bxd6 Re8 16.Rb1 (M. Socko - K. Lahno, Mallorca 2004) Qc4 17.Rxb8 Rxb8 18.Bxb8 h4 19.Qd2! hxg3 20.f3 gxh2+ 21.Bxh2 Nf6= The chances are roughly equal, though better players should feel more comfortable.) 12...Na6 13.0-0 Nb4 14.h3 Ba6 15.Nge2 Black has insufficient compensation for material deficit.;

A2) 10...Nh7 11.Bd2 h4 12.Nf1 (I. Novikov - A. Shabalov, San Diego 2006) h3 13.g3 axb5 14.Bxb5 Nd7 15.Ne3 Black has difficulties reaching full equality.;

B) 7...c6 8.0-0 (8.a4 a5 9.0-0 Na6 10.Bg5 h4 11.Nh1 Qb6 12.Qd2 h3

13.g3 Ng4= The position is objectively equal, but precise play is required from both sides. T. Taylor - P. Atoufi, Los Angeles 2011; 8.Bf4 Qa5 9.Bd2 (R. Pert - M. Hebden, Caleta 2005) Qb6 10.Be3 h4 11.Nf1 Qxb2 12.Na4 Qb4+ 13.Bd2 Qa3= This position is rather drawish.) 8...Nbd7

B1) 9.Re1 b5 (M. Gurevich - L. Van Wely, Tastrup 1992) (9...e5 (V. Korchnoi - J. Piket, Wijk aan Zee 1992) 10.d5 c5 11.Rb1± White has a lasting initiative.) 10.Bf3 e5 11.d5 cxd5 12.cxd5 Nh7 13.b4 0-0= The chances are roughly equal, though better players should feel more comfortable.;

B2) 9.f4 e5 10.fxe5 (10.dxe5? dxe5 11.fxe5 (PLP 1661571 - Bubble 1.5, Internet 2011) Qb6+ 12.Rf2 Nxe5± (with the idea Nfg4)) 10...dxe5 11.d5 Qb6+ 12.Rf2 Bf8 13.Na4 Qa7 14.dxc6 bxc6 15.Qc2± Black has difficulties reaching full equality.]

¹² **6.Bg5** h6 7.Be3 Ng4 8.Bc1 e5

[8...c5 9.d5 e6 10.h3 Ne5= The chances are roughly equal, though better players should feel more comfortable. B. Larsen - S. Gligoric, Leningrad 1973]
9.h3 (D. Breder - D. Koetterheinrich, Germany 1997) 9...exd4 10.hxg4 dxc3 11.Nxc3 g5 12.Be3 Nc6 13.Rc1 Ne5 14.f3 c6 15.b3 Be6= This position is very complicated, which favors better players.

¹³ **6...Nbd7** [Chapter]

(Diagram)

7.Be2 h5 Trajko Nedev: '= ' Trajko Nedev: '- 6... Nbd7 7. Be2 h5' 8.0-0
[8.Be3 e5 9.d5 a5

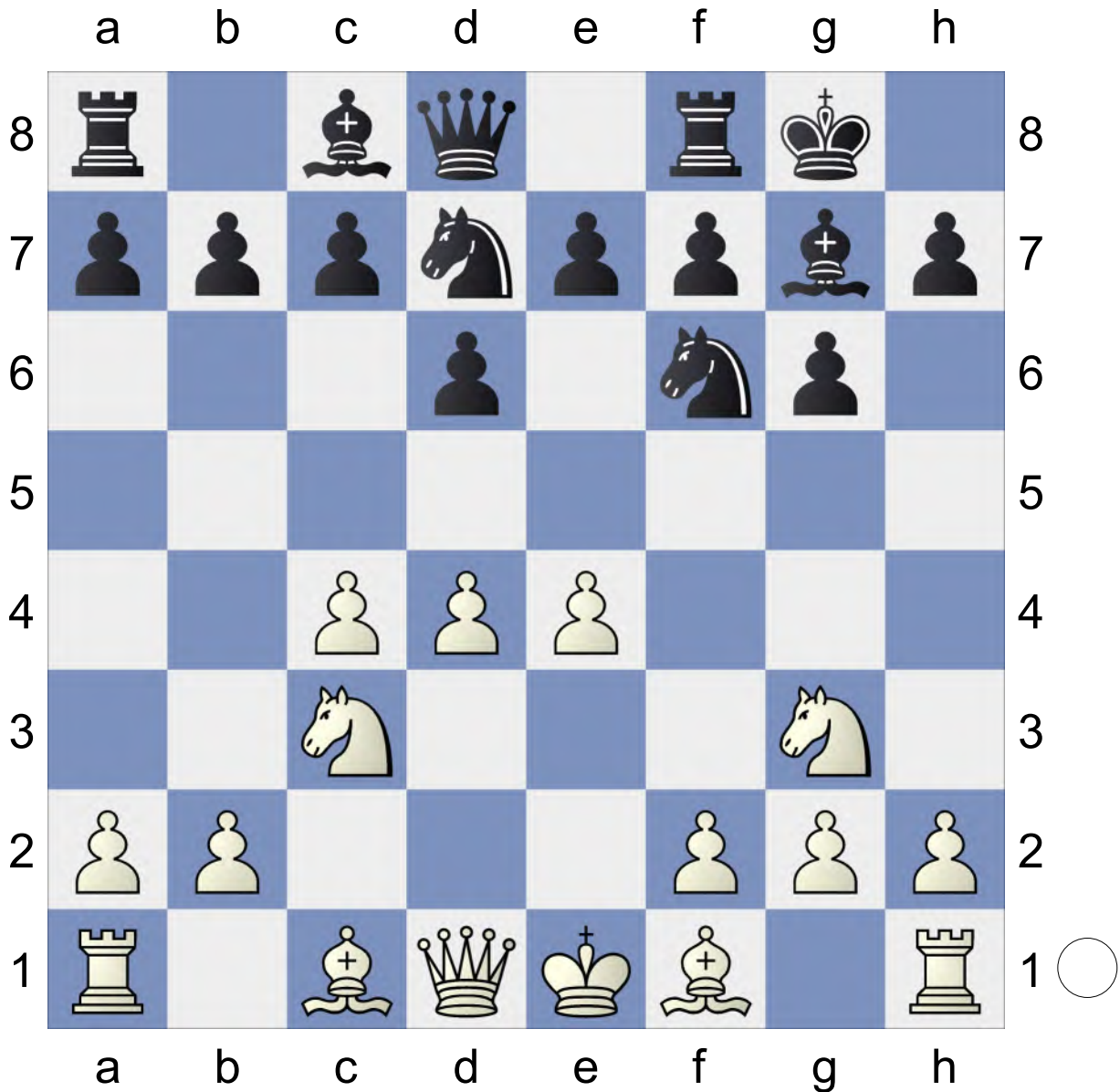
A) 10.a3 Nc5 11.h4 (11.Bg5 Qe8 12.0-0 a4 13.Nb5 Qd8=) 11...Ng4 12.Bxg4 Bxg4 13.f3 Bd7 T. Nabaty - I. Smirin, Skopje 2013;

B) 10.Bg5 Nc5 11.0-0 Qd7 (11...Qe8 (I. Derjabin - A. Krupko, Ternopil 2003) 12.Nb5 Qd7 13.f3 Nh7 14.Be3 Bf6 15.Qd2± Black has difficulties reaching full equality.) 12.Qd2 Nh7 13.Be3 (13.Bh6 h4 14.Bxg7 Kxg7 15.Nh1 Qe7= The position is objectively equal, although a touch more comfortable for Black. E. Ghaem Maghami - Z. Kozul, Dresden 2008) 13...Qe7 14.f3 Bf6]

[8.Qc2 a6 9.f4 h4 10.Nf1 c5 11.d5 b5 12.Ne3 b4 13.Ncd1 e6 14.0-0 exd5 15.cxd5 Re8 16.Nf2 a5= The chances are roughly equal, though better players should feel more comfortable. S. Williams - P. Svidler, Bunratty 2009]

[8.Nf1 c6 9.Nd2 e5 10.d5 a5 11.0-0 Nc5 12.b3 Bh6 D. Anton Guijarro - I. Smirin, Yerevan 2014]

[8.h4 a6 9.Bg5 c5 10.d5 b5!? 11.cxb5 (11.b3?! Nh7 12.Bd2 b4 13.Na4 Bxa1 14.Qxa1 e5± White has insufficient compensation for material deficit. R. Rapport - Ding Liren, Biel 2013) 11...axb5 (11...Ne5 (C. Trajber - G. Csvila, Hungary 2012) 12.a4 axb5 13.Nxb5 Bd7 14.Qc2 Qa5+ 15.Bd2 Qb6 16.0-0



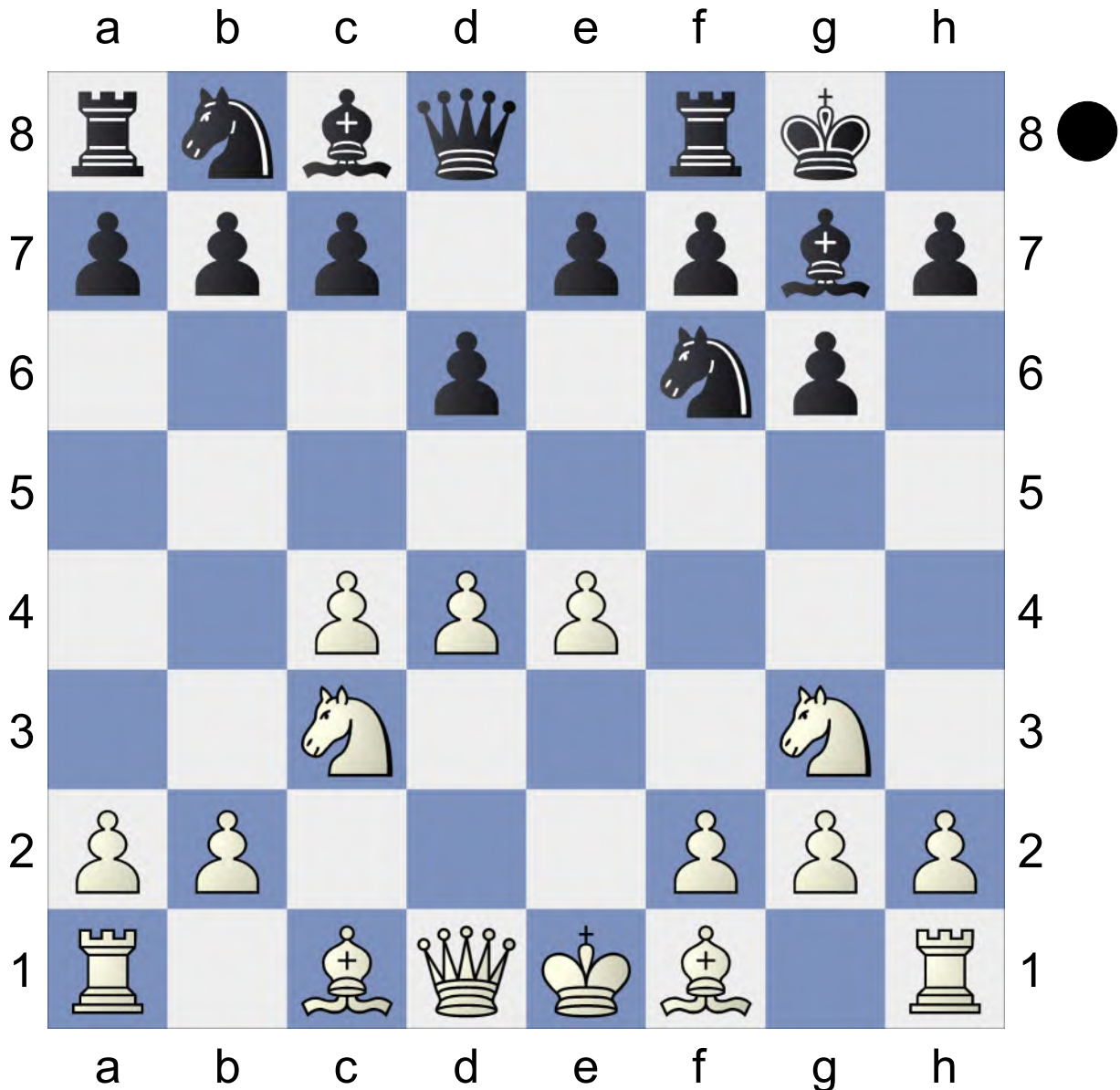
Rfb8 17.Rab1 Nfg4 18.Bg5 c4 19.b3 cxb3 20.Rxb3± Black can maintain equality with accurate play.) 12.Bxb5 (F. Oberholzer - M. Yurtseven, Kayseri 2010) Nh7 13.Bf4 Ba6 14.Bxa6 Qb6! 15.Nge2 Qxa6= Black has sufficient compensation for material deficit.]

8...e5 9.d5 h4 10.Nh1 Nh7 11.f3 Ndf6 (with the idea Nh5) 12.f4 exf4 13.Bxf4 (V. Bologan - E. Bacrot, Biel 2012) 13...h3 14.g3 Nd7 15.Nf2 Ne5 16.Qd2 a6= The chances are roughly equal, though better players should feel more comfortable.

[Chapter]

(Diagram)

6...c5 7.d5 e6



[7...Na6 8.Be2 Nc7 9.0-0 Rb8 10.a4 b6 11.Bf4 Nfe8 12.Qd2 Bd7 13.Bh6±
White has the initiative. I. Khenkin - E. Romanov, Sochi 2012]

8.Be2 exd5 9.exd5

[9.cxd5= - Line 117 : 2... c5 3. d5 e6 4. Nc3 exd5 5. cxd5 d6 6. e4 g6 7. Nge2 Bg7
8. Ng3 O-O 9. Be2]

9...Nbd7

[9...Re8 10.0-0 Nbd7 11.Bf4 Ne5 12.Qd2

A) 12...a6?! 13.Bg5 (13.a4 Qa5 14.Rfe1 Bg4 15.Bf1± (with the idea h3, Bg5, f4) G. Serper - A. Fishbein, New York 1996) 13...Qc7 (13...Qb6 14.b3 Qb4 15.Rac1 b5 (P. Tregubov - R. Kempinski, Moscow 2006) 16.f4 Neg4 17.f5± White has the initiative.) 14.a4 h5 15.f4 Neg4 16.f5± White has the initiative. G. Serper - V. Kotronias, Gausdal 1991;

B) 12...Bd7?! 13.Bg5 Qb6 14.f4 Neg4 15.f5± White has the initiative. S.

Hilton - J. Cadman, corr. 1990;

C) 12...Nfd7 13.Bg5 (13.Nge4 (B. Bozinovic - B. Juric, Zadar 1996) Nf6 14.Nxf6+ Bxf6 15.Ne4 Bg7 16.Rfe1 Bf5) 13...f6 14.Be3 f5 15.Rfe1 Nf6 16.h3 Bd7 17.a3= The position is objectively equal, although a touch more comfortable for White. Vitruvius 1.11C - Rybka 4.1, Internet 2013]

10.0-0 a6 11.a4 Ne8 12.f4 f5 13.Ra3 Rb8= The chances are roughly equal, though better players should feel more comfortable. V. Hort - G. Weber, Vienna 1998

6...h5 7.Be2 a6

[7...h4 8.Nf1 h3 9.g4 a6 10.Be3 b5 11.Ng3 c5 12.d5 (12.dxc5 dxc5 13.Qxd8 Rxd8 14.Bxc5 Bxg4 15.Bxe7 Bxe2 16.Bxd8 Bf3 17.0-0 Nc6 18.Bxf6 Bxf6 19.cxb5 axb5= The position is objectively equal, but very difficult to play for both sides.) 12...Nbd7 13.0-0 Rb8 14.Rb1 Ne5 15.g5 Nfg4 16.Bf4 f6= The chances are roughly equal, though better players should feel more comfortable. P. Diez Gonzalez - V. Mikhalchuk, corr. 2012]

[7...Nbd7= - 6... Nbd7 7. Be2 h5]

8.0-0 c5 9.d5 b5!?

[9...e5 10.Bg5 Qe8 11.f3 (11.Qd2 Nh7 12.Bh6 h4 13.Nh1 Qe7 14.Bxg7 Kxg7 15.a3 f5± V. Bologan - R. Mamedov, Rhodes 2013) 11...Nh7 12.Bd2 h4 13.Nh1 f5 14.Nf2 Nd7 15.Rb1± White has the initiative.]

10.cxb5 h4 11.Nh1 h3 12.g3 axb5 13.Bxb5 Na6 14.f3 (Stockfish 1.4 - Deep Shredder 12, Internet 2009) 14...e6 15.Nf2 Nc7 16.Bc6 Rb8= Black has sufficient compensation for material deficit.

6...a6 7.Be2 c5 8.d5 b5!

[8...h5 9.a4 e5 10.Bg5 Qe8 11.Qd2 Nh7 12.Bh6± Black has difficulties reaching full equality. G. Serper - A. Shabalov, Seattle 2000]

9.cxb5 axb5 10.Nxb5

[10.Bxb5 Ba6 11.Bxa6 Nxa6 12.0-0 Qa5 13.Qe2 Nc7= Black has sufficient compensation for material deficit. F. Rambaldi - A. Graf, Bad Wiessee 2013]

10...Na6

[10...h5

A) 11.Nc3 Qb6 12.a4 (12.Nf1 Ba6 13.Ne3 Nbd7 14.0-0 Rfb8 15.Re1 (A. Dreev - E. Inarkiev, Tomsk 2006) Bxe2 16.Rxe2 Qa6 17.Qf1 Ne5= Black has sufficient compensation for material deficit. White has to be very careful to avoid the numerous pitfalls ahead.) 12...Na6 13.0-0 h4 14.Nh1 Nc7 15.f3 e6 16.dxe6 Bxe6 17.a5 Qc6 18.Nf2± The position is objectively equal, but precise play is required from both sides. The position is objectively equal, although a touch more comfortable for White.;

B) 11.f3 h4 12.Nf1 h3 13.g3 Ba6 14.a4 Ne8 15.Ne3 Nc7 (A. Shemeakin - A. Korobov, Alushta 2009) 16.Nc3 Bxe2 17.Qxe2 Nd7 18.0-0± Black has difficulties reaching full equality.]

11.0-0 Nc7 12.Nxc7 Qxc7 13.Bd2 Nd7 14.Qc2 Ba6 15.Bxa6

[15.Bc3 (C. Sandipan - N. Mamedov, Kavala 2011) Bxc3 16.Qxc3 Rfb8=

Black has sufficient compensation for material deficit.]

15...Rxa6 16.a4 Rb8 17.Rfb1 Qb7 18.Ra3 Rb6 19.b3 Qa6 20.a5 R6b7 21.Rd1
Bd4= The position is objectively equal, although a touch more comfortable for White.

6...c6 Trajko Nedev: '±' Trajko Nedev: '-' 4... d6 5. Nge2 O-O 6. Ng3 c6' 7.Bd3
[7.Be2

A) 7...Nbd7

A1) 8.Bg5 h6 9.Be3 a6 10.Qd2 h5 11.0-0 (11.Bh6 h4 12.Bxg7 Kxg7
13.Nf1 b5= with mutual play. I. Sokolov - L. Van Wely, Akureyri 1994) 11...b5
12.f3 Nb6 13.b3 bxc4 14.bxc4± White has a slight spatial advantage.
Ivanhoe B47 - Houdini 1.5a, Internet (blitz) 2011;

A2) 8.Be3 e5 9.d5 cxd5 10.cxd5 a6 11.Qd2 h5 12.Bg5 Qb6 13.0-0
Nh7 14.Be3 Qd8 15.Bd3 h4 16.Nge2± White has a slight spatial
advantage. A. Nickel - A. Pankratov, corr. 2002;

B) 7...e5 8.d5 cxd5 9.cxd5 Bd7 10.Be3 h5 (10...Qa5 11.a3 Rc8
(I. Sokolov - Z. Kozul, Batumi 1999) 12.f3 h5 13.Bd3 h4 14.Nge2 Qd8
15.0-0±) 11.0-0 a5 12.Bg5 Qb6 13.Qb3± Black has difficulties reaching full
equality.;

C) 7...a6 8.Be3 Nbd7 (8...b5 9.0-0 Nbd7± - 8... Nbd7 9. O-O b5) 9.0-0

C1) 9...e5 10.d5 cxd5 11.cxd5 h5 12.Rc1 (12.Bg5 b5 13.b4 Nb6
14.a4± White has a slight spatial advantage. Zappa Mexico II - Stockfish 1.7.1,
Internet 2010)

C1a) 12...Nh7 13.Qd2 h4 14.Nh1 f5 15.exf5 gxf5 16.f4 exf4 17.Bxf4
Ne5 18.Nf2 Bd7 19.Kh1 Rc8 20.Nh3 Qf6 (O. Andersen - T. Gabrielsen,
Norway 2010) (20...b5 21.a3 Qf6 22.Be3 Ng6 23.Bh5 Ne5 24.Be2
Ng6 25.Nf4 Nxf4 26.Bxf4± White has a lasting advantage. R. Ponomarev
- V. Bologan, Tomsk (rapid) 2006) 21.Be3! Rfe8 22.Nf4 Qe7 23.Rce1±
White has slightly better pawn structure.;

C1b) 12...b5 13.Bg5 Bb7 14.b4 Qe8 15.a4 Nh7 16.Bd2 h4 17.Nh1
bxa4 18.Nxa4 f5 19.f3± White has a slight spatial advantage. A. Zubov -
V. Onischuk, Kharkov 2007;

C2) 9...b5 Trajko Nedev: '±' Trajko Nedev: '-' 8... Nbd7 9. O-O b5' 10.Rc1 h5
11.f3 h4 12.Nh1± White has a slight spatial advantage. Senpai 1.0 - Naum 4.
6, Internet 2014]

7...Nbd7 8.0-0 e5 9.d5 cxd5 10.cxd5 Nc5

[10...a6

A) 11.b4

A1) 11...h5 12.Bg5 Qe8 13.h3 b6 (13...Nh7 14.Be3 h4 15.Nge2 f5
16.f3 Qd8 17.Rc1± White has the initiative.) 14.Rc1 Bb7 15.Qe2 Nh7
16.Be3 h4 17.Nh1± White has a moderate spatial advantage. Spike 1.2
Turin - Naum 2.1, Internet (blitz) 2007;

A2) 11...a5 (I. Efimov - Y. Berthelot, France 1999) 12.Qa4 b6 13.Rb1 Bb7
14.Be3 Ng4 15.Bd2 axb4 16.Qxb4 Qe7 17.Be2± White has a slight spatial
advantage.;

B) 11.Be3 b5 12.f3 Bb7 13.Qd2 Nc5 14.Bc2 Rc8 15.Rac1± White has a lasting advantage. J. Sistemich - A. Hoppe, corr. 2009]
 11.Be2 a5 12.Be3 Bd7 (S. Gromovs - V. Vuelban, Venice 2009) 13.Bxc5!? dxc5 14.Bb5 Bxb5 15.Nxb5 a4 16.Qd3± White has a passed pawn.

¹⁴ **8.h4** h5

[8...Na6?! 9.h5 Nc5 10.Bg5 c6

A) 11.h6 Bh8 12.Qf3 Bg4 13.Qe3 (13.Qxg4 Nxg4 14.Bxd8 Rfxd8 15.Be2 Nf6 16.0-0-0 (P. Tregubov - A. Volokitin, Germany 2007) Ne8 17.Kc2 Bf6± White has difficulties reaching full equality.) 13...Qb6 14.Qd2 cxd5 15.cxd5 Rfc8;

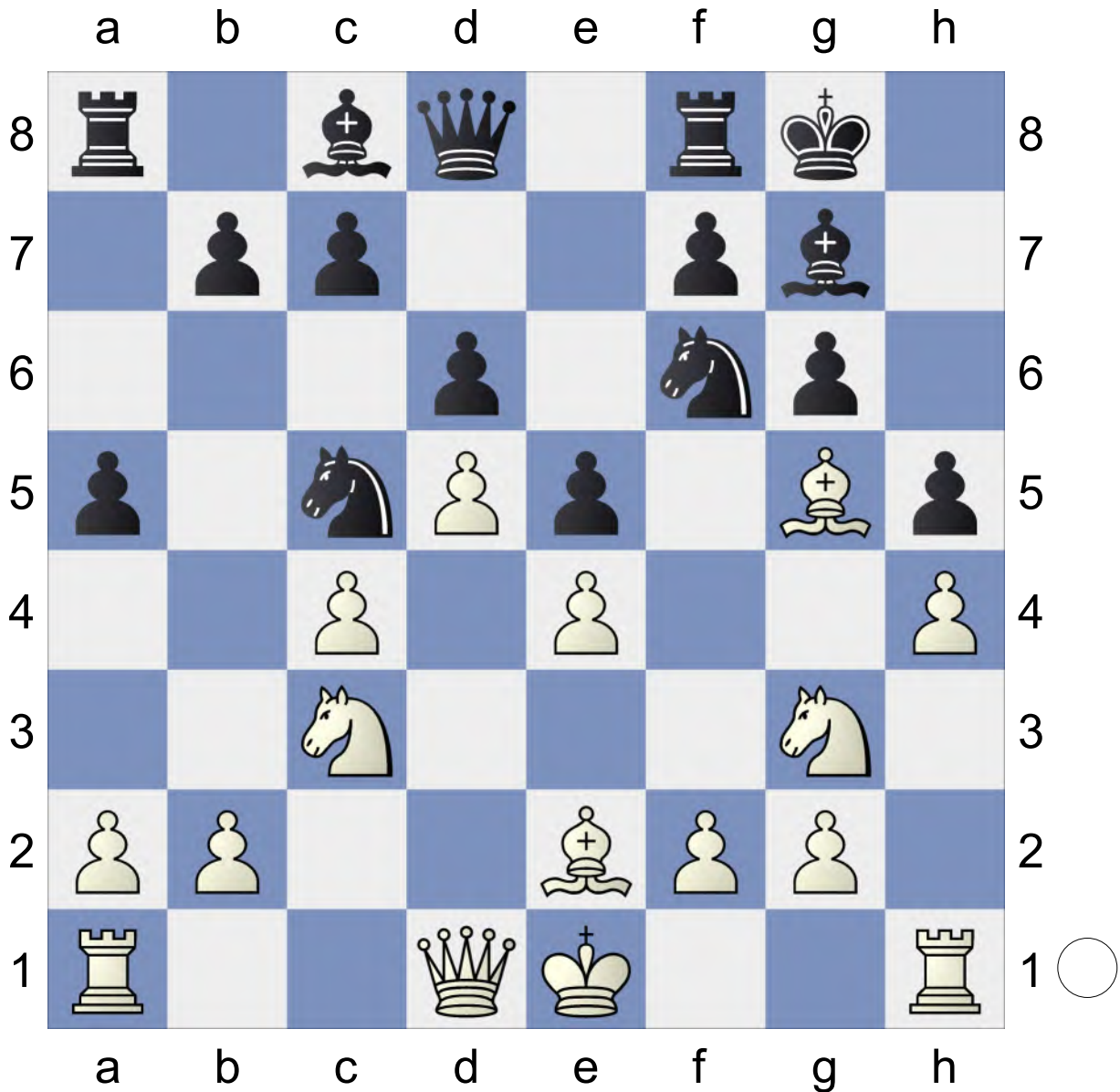
B) 11.Qd2 Qb6 12.Be2 cxd5 13.exd5 Ng4 14.f3 f6 15.h6! Bh8 16.Bh4 (M. Massoni - T. Guyader, La Massana 2013) Nxb6 17.Qxb6 Bg7 18.Qd2 g5 19.Nh5 gxf4 20.Nxg7 Kxg7 21.g4± White has the attack.]

9.Bg5 Qe8

[9...Nbd7 10.Be2 Re8 (10...Nc5?!

(Diagram)

11.Bxh5! gxf5 12.Nxh5 Kh8 13.Nxg7 Kxg7 14.Qf3 Rh8 15.h5± White has more than adequate compensation for material deficit. R. Albrecht - Y. Yuan, Berlin 2007) *11.a3 (11.Bxh5!? gxf5 12.Nxh5 Nf8* (C. Sandipan - J. Majdan, Kavala 2009) *13.Nxg7 Kxg7 14.f3 N8h7 15.Be3=* White has sufficient compensation for material deficit.) *11...Nf8 12.f3 N8h7 13.Be3 Nd7 14.Bf2±* White has a slight spatial advantage. A. Faghirnavaz - M. Sedaghati, Tabriz 2011]
 10.Qd2 Na6 11.Be2= - 8. Be2 Na6 9. h4 h5 10. Bg5 Qe8 11. Qd2



¹⁵ **9.0-0** h5 10.Bg5 Qe8 11.Qd2 Nh7 12.Be3 h4 13.Nh1 Bd7 14.Rae1 Nc5 15.Bd1 Qe7= The chances are roughly equal, though better players should feel more comfortable. V. Bologan - V. Kovalev, Dubai (rapid) 2014

9.Bg5 h6 10.Be3 Nh7

[10...h5 11.Bg5 Qe8 12.Qd2 (12.h4 Bd7 13.Qd2 Nh7 14.Bh6 Bxh6 15.Qxh6 Qe7 16.Nf1 Qf6 17.g3 Nc5= The chances are roughly equal, though better players should feel more comfortable. E. Vladimirov - P. Thipsay, Sangli 2000) 12...Nh7 13.Be3 (13.Bh6 h4 14.Bxg7 Kxg7 15.Nf1 Nc5 16.g3 Qe7 17.Qe3 Bd7= The position is objectively equal, although a touch more comfortable for Black. M. Rohde - J. Polgar, New York 1992) 13...Qe7 14.0-0-0 h4 15.Nf1 f5 16.f3 b6= The chances are roughly equal, though better players should feel more comfortable. K. Landa - Z. Jovanovic, Rijeka 2010]

11.Qd2 h5 12.0-0-0 Bd7 13.Kb1 Nc5 R. Ponomariov - R. Kasimdzhanov, Tomsk (rapid) 2006

¹⁶ **9...c6** 10.h5 cxd5 11.exd5

[11.cxd5 Nc5 12.Be3 Qb6

A) 13.Rb1 Bd7 14.Qd2 (14.Nf1 a4 15.Nd2 Qa5 16.hxg6 hxg6 (C. Lutz - B. Gelfand, Horgen 1994) 17.Kf1 b5 18.a3 Rfb8= with mutual play.) 14...Rfc8 15.Bh6 Bxh6 16.Qxh6 Qd8 17.f3 Rab8 18.Nd1 b5 19.Ne3± White is exerting kingside pressure. B. Vigh - M. Tratar, Schwarzach 1999;

B) 13.b3 Bd7 14.0-0 (V. Korchnoi - J. Nunn, Wijk aan Zee 1992) Rfc8

15.hxg6 hxg6 16.Qd2 Qd8 17.f3± White has a slight spatial advantage.]

11...Nc5 (Crittter 1.4 - Spike 1.4, Internet 2012) 12.Qc2 Bd7 13.Bg5 Qb6 14.Be3 Rfc8 15.Kf1± White has a slight spatial advantage.

¹⁷ **12.f3** Bd7

[12...a4 (L. Ruppel - L. Viana, Fortaleza 1994) 13.Nb5 Qd7 14.0-0-0±]

13.0-0-0 a4 14.Qc2 Qb8! 15.Be3 Qa7 16.Nf1 (M. Kaposztas - G. Mihalyfi, Ajka 2005) 16...Qa5 17.Rg1 c6 18.g4 hxg4 19.fxg4 cxd5 20.exd5 Rfc8= This position is very complicated, which favors better players.

¹⁸ **13.Bxg4** Bxg4 14.f3 Bd7 15.Be3

[15.Bh6 Qe7 16.Bxg7 Kxg7 17.Qg5 Qxg5+ 18.hxg5 f6 19.gxf6+ Rxf6 20.Kd2 Rh8= The position is objectively equal, although a touch more comfortable for Black. L. Gilea - V. Nevednichy, Targu Mures 2014]

15...b6 16.Kb1 Kh7 Key game M. Carlsen - T. Radjabov, Shamkir 2014

¹⁹ **6...e5** [Chapter]

(Diagram)

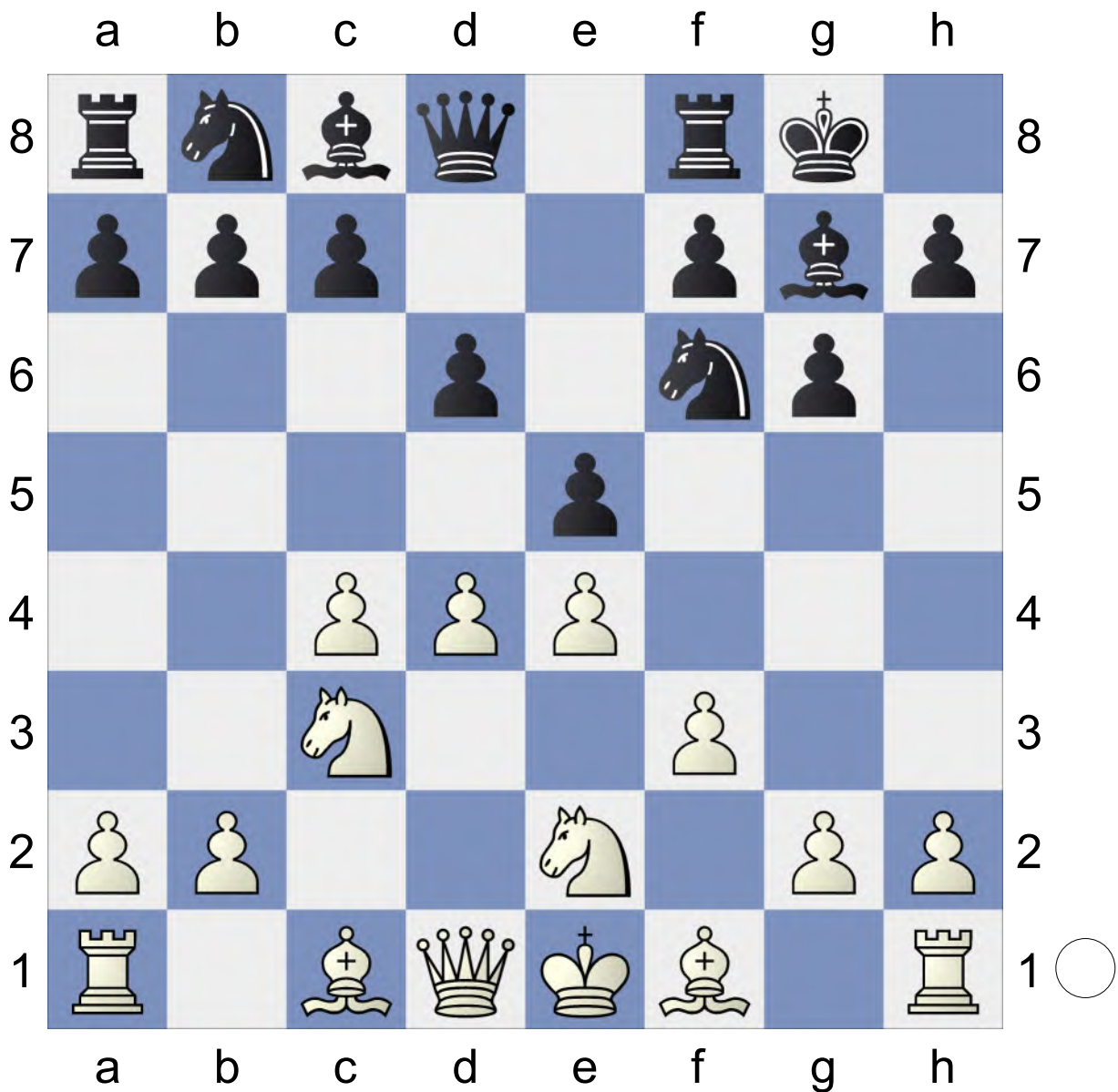
7.Bg5 exd4

[7...Nc6 8.d5 Ne7 9.Qd2 a6 (9...h5 10.Nc1 Nh7 11.Be3± I. Sokolov - I. Smirin, Groningen 1993) 10.Ng3 Ne8 11.Bd3 f6 12.Be3± White has a slight spatial advantage. Deep Rybka 4.1 - Critter 1.0, Internet 2011]

[worse move is 7...c6 8.Qd2 (8.d5 cxd5 9.Nxd5 Be6 10.Nec3 Nbd7 11.Qd2 Bxd5 12.cxd5± White has a lasting advantage. L. Portisch - Z. Kozul, Yerevan 1996) 8...Nbd7 9.d5 h6 10.Be3 cxd5 11.cxd5 a6 12.Nc1 b5 13.Be2± White has a lasting advantage. R. Ponomariov - T. Radjabov, Medias 2010]

8.Nxd4 Nc6 9.Nc2 Ne5

[9...h6 10.Be3 Nh5 11.Qd2 (FireFly 2.57 - Clueless 1.4, Internet 2009) (11.g4 (J. Lautier - I. Glek, Wijk aan Zee 1997) Bxc3+! 12.bxc3 Ng7 13.Be2 Qh4+ 14.Kd2 Ne6= White has a pair of bishops. Black has slightly better pawn structure.) 11...f5 12.exf5 gxf5 13.0-0-0±]



10.Qd2 Be6 11.b3 c6 12.Rd1 Qa5 13.Be2 Nfd7 14.Na4 Qxd2+ 15.Rxd2 Nb6
16.Nxb6 axb6 Key game Ding Liren - Zhou Jianchao, China 2012
[Chapter]

(Diagram)

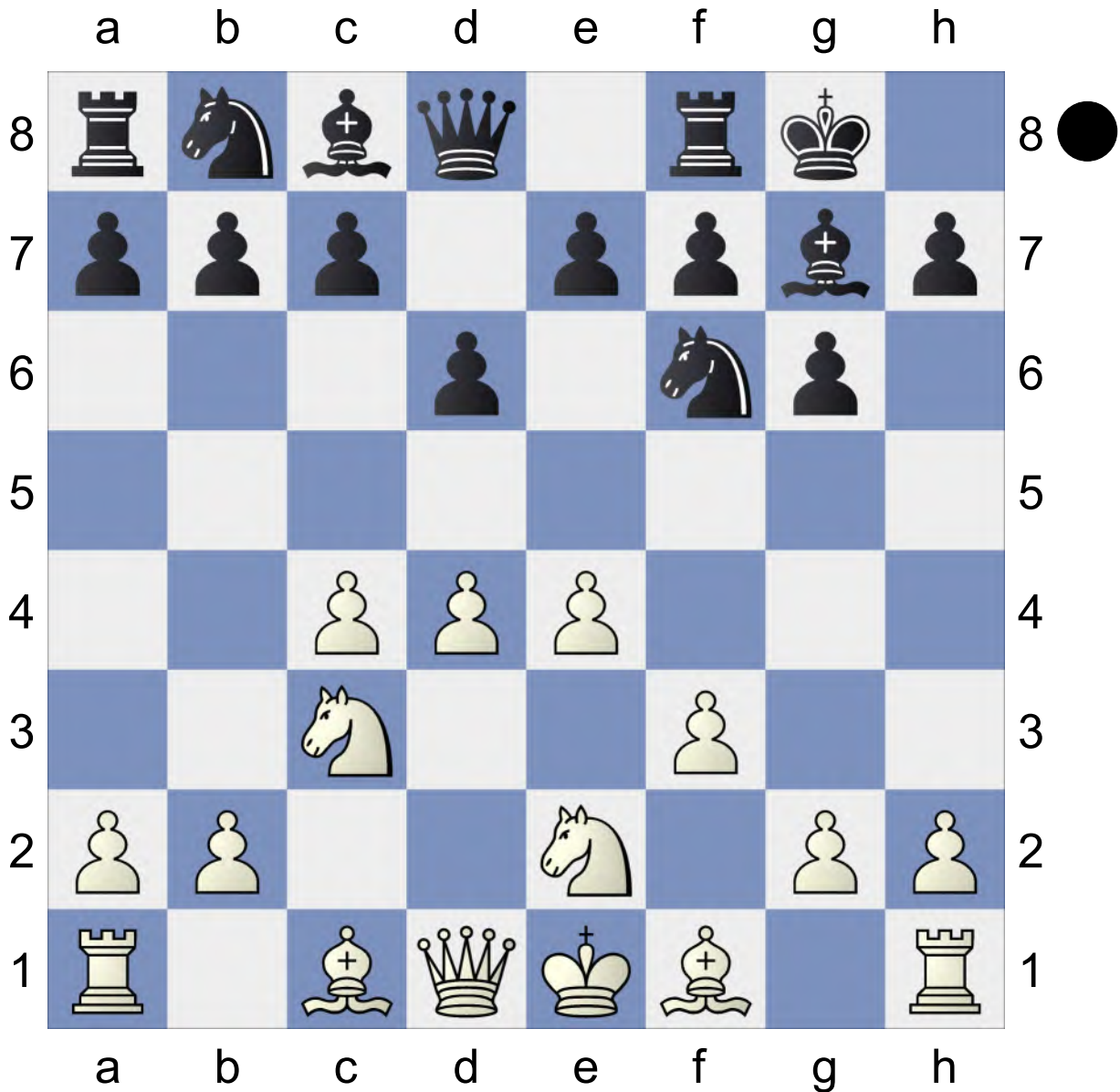
6...Nbd7 7.Bg5 c5

[7...c6± - 6... c6 7. Bg5 Nbd7]

[7...e5 8.d5 h6 9.Be3 Nh7 10.Qc2 a6 11.0-0-0 f5 (L. Psakhis - L. Van Wely, Internet (rapid) 1995) 12.exf5 gxf5 13.Kb1± White can increase his advantage with accurate play.]

8.d5 h6

[8...a6 9.a4 h5 (9...h6 10.Be3 Ne5 11.Ng3 e6 12.Be2 exd5 13.cxd5 h5±



- Line 155 : 5. f3 O-O 6. Be3 c5 7. Nge2 Nc6 8. d5 Ne5 9. Ng3 e6 10. Be2 exd5 11. cxd5 a6 12. a4 h5; worse move is 9...Qa5 10.Ng3 (A. Moiseenko - V. Saravanan, Tromsø 2007) h6 11.Bd2 h5 12.Be2 h4 13.Nf1± White has a slight spatial advantage.) 10.Nc1 Nh7 (V. Erdos - H. Mujic, Neum 2011) 11.Be3 Ne5 12.Be2 f5= The chances are roughly equal, though better players should feel more comfortable.]

9.Be3 h5 10.Nc1 Nh7

[10...Ne5 11.Be2 (11.h3 e6 12.f4 exd5 13.fxe5 Nxe4 14.Nxe4 dxe4 15.Qxd6 Qh4+ 16.Bf2 Qg5 17.h4 Qg4 18.Ne2 Be6= The position is objectively equal, but precise play is required from both sides.) 11...Nh7= - 10... Nh7 11. Be2 Ne5]

11.Be2 Ne5 Trajko Nedev: '= ' Trajko Nedev: ' - 10... Nh7 11. Be2 Ne5' 12.O-O f5 13.Qd2 fxe4 14.Nxe4 Bf5 15.Ng3

[15.Nf2 Qb6 16.a4 (A. Grischuk - I. Smirin, Beersheba 2005) Qa6 17.Nb3 Rae8= This position is very complicated, which favors better players.]

15...e6 16.Nb3 h4 17.Nxf5 exf5 18.h3 Nf7 19.Bf2 Re8 20.Rfe1 Qf6=
The chances are roughly equal, though better players should feel more comfortable.

6...a6 7.Bg5

[7.Be3= - Line 154 : 5. f3 O-O 6. Be3 a6 7. Nge2]

7...c5

[7...c6= - 6... c6 7. Bg5 a6]

8.d5 b5 9.cxb5 Qa5 10.Ng3 axb5 11.Bxb5 Ba6 12.Bxa6 Nxa6 13.0-0 Rfb8=
Black has sufficient compensation for material deficit. A. Dreev - Z. Azmaiparashvili, Reggio Emilia 1996

6...c6 7.Bg5 a6 Trajko Nedev: '= ' Trajko Nedev: '- 6... c6 7. Bg5 a6'

[7...Nbd7 8.Qd2

A) 8...Rb8 9.h4 (9.Nc1 a6 10.a4 e5 11.d5 (S. Feller - S. Maze, Saint-Quentin 2012) Qe8 12.Be2 cxd5 13.cxd5 Nh5 14.Nd3 f6 15.Bh6 f5 16.0-0 Bxh6 17.Qxh6 Ndf6= This position is very complicated, which favors better players.) 9...b5 10.cxb5 cxb5 11.h5 b4 12.Nd1± White has the initiative.;

B) 8...Qa5 9.Nc1 Qc7 10.Be2 (10.Nd3 a6 11.Rc1 c5 12.dxc5 Nxc5 13.b4 Nxd3+ 14.Bxd3± White has a slight spatial advantage.) 10...a6 11.a4 e5 12.d5 cxd5 13.cxd5 Nh5 14.Nd3± White has the initiative. P. Harikrishna - Zhao Jun, Zaozhuang 2012;

C) 8...a6 9.h4 (9.d5!? Ne5 10.Nd4 c5 11.Nc2 (A. Dreev - K. Arakhamia Grant, Luzern 1997) Nh5 12.Be2 f6 13.Be3 f5 14.exf5 gxf5= This position is very complicated, which favors better players.; 9.g4 b5 - 7... a6 8. Qd2 b5 9. g4 Nbd7) 9...b5 10.h5 Nxh5 11.g4 Nh6 12.Bh6± White has the initiative. M. Lapcevic - D. Sorgic, Kraljevo 2011]

8.Qd2 b5 9.h4

[9.Ng3 Nbd7 10.Rc1 (10.Rd1 Bb7 11.Be2 bxc4 12.Bxc4 (A. Grischuk - V. Zvjaginsev, Moscow (blitz) 2004) c5 13.d5 a5 14.Nge2 a4 15.0-0 Ba6 16.Bxa6 Rxa6= The chances are roughly equal, though better players should feel more comfortable.)

A) 10...Bb7 11.b3 Rc8 12.Be2 e5 13.d5 cxd5 (V. Tkachiev - S. Movsesian, Porec 1998) 14.exd5 bxc4 15.bxc4 Qc7 16.Be3 Nc5 17.Nge4 Nfxe4 18.Nxe4 Nxe4 19.fxe4± (with the idea c5);

B) 10...Re8 11.b3 e5 12.d5 b4

B1) 13.Nd1 a5! (13...c5 14.Bd3 h5 15.a4 Nf8 16.h4± White has a slight spatial advantage. A. Chernin - Z. Kozul, Portoroz 1997) 14.dxc6 Nc5 15.h4 h5 16.Ne3 Ra6 17.Nd5 Rxc6= The chances are roughly equal, though better players should feel more comfortable.;

B2) 13.Na4 c5 (Rodin 2.3a - LittleThought 1.04, Internet 2009) 14.Bd3 a5 15.0-0 Qc7 16.Bc2± White has a slight spatial advantage.;

C) 10...bxc4 11.Bxc4 d5 12.Bb3 dxe4

C1) 13.Ncxe4 Qb6 14.Nxf6+ (14.h4 a5 15.h5 Nxe4 16.Nxe4 a4 17.Bc4 Qxd4 18.Qf4= White has sufficient compensation for material deficit.)
14...Nxf6 15.0-0 a5 16.Rfe1 a4 17.Bc4 Ra7 V. Iordachescu - D. Popovic,
Plovdiv 2012;

C2) 13.fxe4 e5 14.d5 Nc5 15.Bc4 cxd5 16.exd5 Qb6 17.h3 Bb7=

This position is very complicated, which favors better players.]

[9.Bh6 Trajko Nedev: '= ' Trajko Nedev: '- 5. f3 O-O 6. Nge2 c6 7. Bg5 a6 8. Qd2 b5 9. Bh6' e5

A) 10.0-0-0?! Bxh6 11.Qxh6 Qa5 12.a3 (Naum 3.1 - Hiarcs 12, Internet (blitz) 2008) (12.g4?! b4 13.Nb1 Qxa2 14.Ng3 (I. Sokolov - L. Van Wely, Wijk aan Zee 1997) exd4 15.Rxd4 Qa5 16.Rxd6 Qe5 17.Rd2 Nbd7± White has poor piece coordination.; 12.Qg5?! Nbd7 13.Ng3 b4 14.Nb1 (J. Timman - L. Van Wely, Wijk aan Zee 1997) Ne8 15.h4 f6 16.Qd2 exd4 17.Qxd4 Qxa2 18.c5 dxc5 19.Bc4+ Kh8 20.Qxf6+ Nexf6 21.Bxa2 Ne5± White has insufficient compensation for material deficit.) 12...Nbd7 13.Qd2 b4 14.Na2 c5 15.dxc5 dxc5± Black has the initiative.;

B) 10.Bxg7 Kxg7 11.Ng3 Nbd7 12.0-0-0 Qa5 13.Kb1 Rb8= with mutual play. V. Epishin - I. Sokolov, Ter Apel 1995]

[9.g4 Nbd7 Trajko Nedev: '±' Trajko Nedev: '- 7... a6 8. Qd2 b5 9. g4 Nbd7' 10.h4 (10.Ng3 c5 11.dxc5 Nxc5= with mutual play. E. Abou el Zein - E. Vasiukov, Doha 1993) 10...h5 (10...b4 11.Nd1 c5 12.h5 cxd4 13.Nxd4 Qb6 14.Be3 Ne5 15.Be2 Qb7 16.Nf2± Black has difficulties reaching full equality. I. Khenkin - J. Moreno Carnero, Santa Cruz de la Palma 2005; 10...bxc4 11.h5 Qa5 12.Bh6 Bxh6 13.Qxh6 g5 (I. Khenkin - Z. Kozul, Belgrade 1999) 14.Nf4 Rb8 15.0-0-0 Rb4 16.Rh2±) 11.Ng3 c5 12.gxh5 cxd4 13.Nd5 Ne5 (W. Paschall - S. Farago, Budapest 1997) 14.Kf2 e6 15.Nxf6+ Bxf6 16.cxb5 axb5± Black has the initiative.]

9...h5 10.0-0-0

[10.e5?! dxe5 11.dxe5 Qxd2+ 12.Bxd2 Nfd7 13.e6 (13.f4 f6 14.exf6 Nxf6 15.Ng3 e5 16.fxe5 Ng4± P. Harikrishna - Wen Yang, Biel 2012) 13...Nb6 14.Nf4 Bxe6 15.Nxe6 fxe6 16.0-0-0 N8d7± Black has the initiative.]

10...Nbd7

[10...Qa5 11.a3 (11.e5 dxe5 12.dxe5 (E. Bricard - K. Thorsteins, Reykjavik 1993) b4 13.exf6 exf6 14.Bh6 bxc3 15.Nxc3 Nd7 16.g4 Ne5 17.gxh5 Bf5 18.Bxg7 Kxg7 19.hxg6 Rad8 20.Qe3 Rxd1+ 21.Kxd1 Rd8+ 22.Kc1 Nd3+ 23.Bxd3 Rxd3 24.Qf4 fxg6= Black has sufficient compensation for material deficit.) 11...Nbd7 12.g4 e5 13.Bh6 b4 14.Bxg7 Kxg7 15.g5 bxc3 16.gxf6+ Nxf6 17.Qxc3 Qxc3+ 18.Nxc3 Be6 19.Na4± Black has difficulties reaching full equality.]

11.g4

[11.e5 Nh7 12.Bh6 Nb6 13.Bxg7 Kxg7 14.Nf4 dxe5 15.dxe5 Qxd2+ 16.Rxd2 (L. Psakhis - J. Gentileau, Andorra 1995) bxc4 17.Ne4 a5 18.a3 a4 19.Rc2 Ra5= The position is objectively equal, although a touch more comfortable for

Black.]

11...hgx4

[11...b4 12.Na4 hgx4 (F. Caruana - P. Svidler, Loo 2013) 13.Bg2! Nh7 14.Bh6 Bxh6 15.Qxh6 Qa5 16.b3 Ndf6 17.c5! $\pm$ White has more than adequate compensation for material deficit.]

12.h5 b4

[12...gxf3 13.Ng3 Nh7 14.hgx6 fxx6 15.e5! dxe5 16.Bd3 $\pm$ White has the attack.]

13.Na4 Nxh5

[13...Qa5 14.h6 Bh8 15.h7+! Nxh7 16.Bxe7 $\pm$ White has the initiative.]

14.fxx4 Nh6 15.Bh6 Nxg4 16.Bxx7 Kxx7 17.Ng3 Ndf6 18.Be2= White has sufficient compensation for material deficit. Black has to be very careful to avoid the numerous pitfalls ahead.

²⁰ **7.Be3=** - Line 155 : 5. f3 O-O 6. Be3 c5 7. Nge2

²¹ **7...a6** 8.a4 e6 9.Ng3= - 7... e6 8. Ng3 a6 9. a4

²² **8.Bg5=** - Line 153 : 5. f3 O-O 6. Bg5 c5 7. d5 e6 8. Nge2

8.Be3= - Line 155 : 5. f3 O-O 6. Be3 c5 7. d5 e6 8. Nge2

²³ **8...a6** 9.a4 h5

[9...exd5 10.cxd5= - 8... exd5 9. cxd5 a6 10. a4]

10.Bg5 exd5

[10...Qc7 11.Qd2 exd5 12.cxd5= - 8... exd5 9. cxd5 a6 10. a4 h5 11. Bg5 Qc7 12. Qd2]

11.cxd5= - 8... exd5 9. cxd5 a6 10. a4 h5 11. Bg5

8...Na6 9.Be2 exd5 10.cxd5 Nc7 11.a4 Nd7

[11...a6 12.Bg5 Bd7

A) 13.h4 h6 (13...b5 14.Qd2 h5 (J. Carstensen - O. Gladyshev, Budapest 1999) 15.0-0 Qe7 16.f4 b4 17.e5 bxc3 18.bxc3 Ncxd5 19.exf6 Nxf6 20.f5 $\pm$ White has the initiative.) 14.Bf4 Qe7 15.Qc1 h5 16.Bg5 Qe5 17.Bf4 Qe7= This position is rather drawish.;

B) 13.0-0 b5 14.e5 (14.Qd2 Qe7 (E. Costea - K. Richardson, corr. 1984) 15.Rfb1 $\pm$) 14...dxe5 15.Nge4 b4 16.Nxf6+ Bxf6 17.Bxf6 Qxf6 18.Ne4 Qf4 19.Bc4 $\pm$ White has more than adequate compensation for material deficit.]

12.Be3 (Rybka 4 - Komodo 2.03, Internet 2011) 12...f5 13.Qd2 Qf6 14.exf5 gxf5

15.0-0 Qh4 16.Bf4 Ne5 17.Rab1 $\pm$ White has the initiative.

8...h5 9.Bg5 Qb6 10.Qd2

[10.Qb3 Qc7 (10...exd5 11.Qxb6 axb6 (N. Vitiugov - I. Kovalenko, St

Petersburg (rapid) 2014) 12.exd5 Re8+ 13.Be2 Na6 14.Kd2 Nc7 15.a4 $\pm$

White has a lasting advantage.) 11.Be2 (J. Wallace - S. Merkesvik, Fagernes

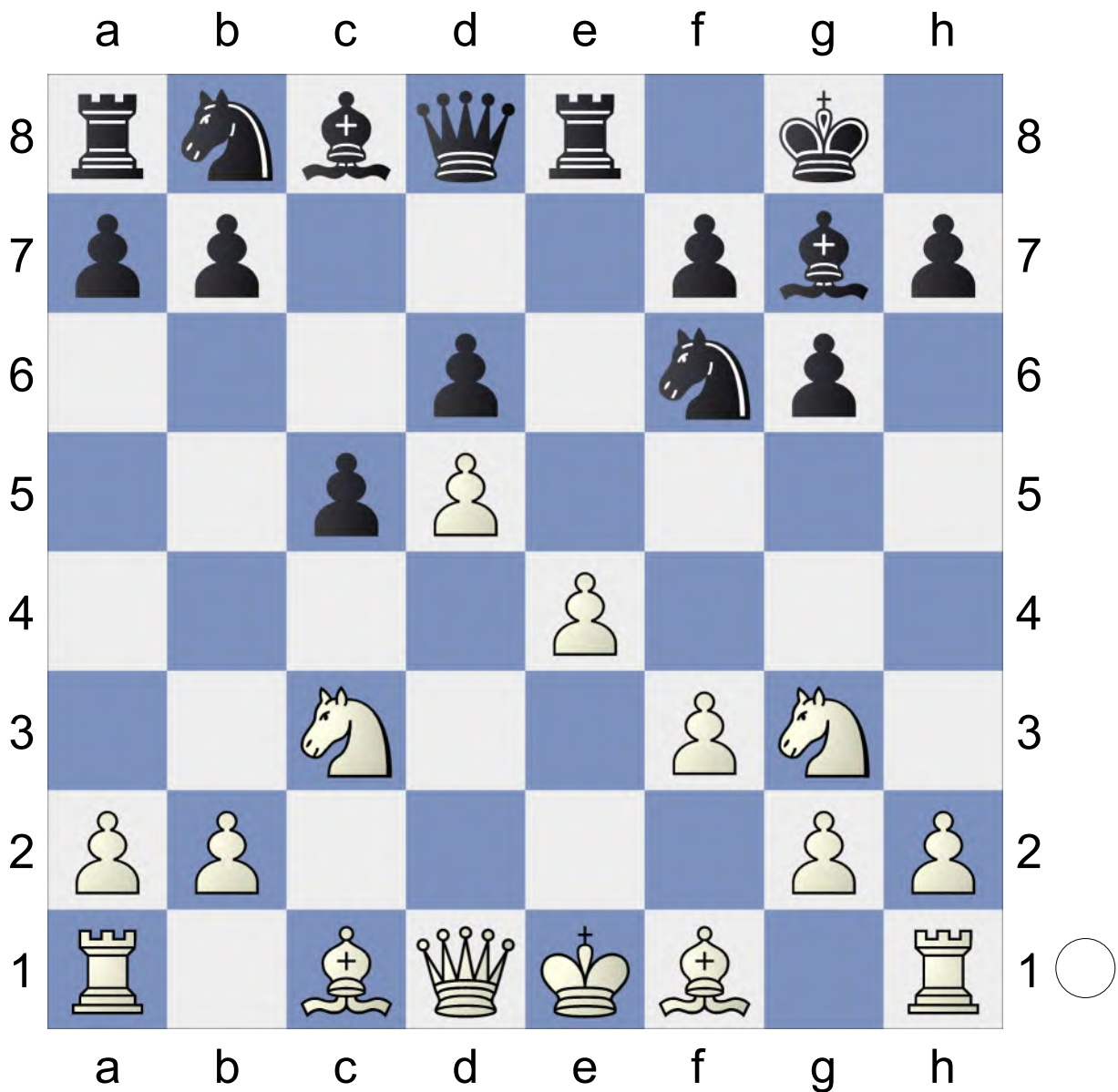
2015) a6 12.0-0 Nh7 13.Be3 $\pm$]

- 10...exd5 11.cxd5 Nh7 12.Bh4 Nd7 13.Be2 Trajko Nedev: '±!' Trajko Nedev: '- 8... h5 9. Bg5 Qb6 10. Qd2 exd5 11. cxd5 Nh7 12. Bh4 Nd7 13. Be2' 13...Re8 [13...g5 14.Bxg5 Nxb5 15.Nxb5 Nh7 16.Nxb5 Kxb5 17.g4± White has more than adequate compensation for material deficit. C. Sandipan - I. Caspi, Zuerich 2009] [13...c4 14.Bxc4 Ne5 15.Be2 Bd7 (A. Gupta - M. Atabayev, Dubai 2011) 16.Nf1 f5 17.Bf2 Qd8 18.exf5 gxf5 19.f4 Ng4 20.Bd4±]
- 14.0-0 [14.Nf1 a6 (14...Ne5 (A. Gupta - D. Ledger, London 2013) 15.Ne3! Bh6 16.0-0 c4 17.f4± White has the initiative.)
- A)** 15.Bf2 Qd8 (15...Qb4 16.Ne3 Bh6 17.Qc2 Ne5 18.0-0 Bd7 19.Kh1± Black has difficulties reaching full equality. A. Gupta - U. Weber, Bad Wiessee 2013) 16.a4 Ne5 17.Ne3 Bh6 18.0-0 f5;
- B)** 15.Ne3 Bh6 16.0-0 Qb4 (16...f5?! 17.f4 fxe4 (A. Gupta - M. Valles, Albena 2013) 18.Qe1! Ndf8 19.Qg3 Bg7 20.Nc4 Qc7 21.f5 Bxf5 22.Bxh5± White has a lasting initiative.) 17.Bf2 Qd4 18.Qc1 f5 19.Rd1 Qf6= The chances are roughly equal, though better players should feel more comfortable. M. Oleksienko - H. Ziska, Reykjavik 2013]
- 14...Bf6 15.Bxf6 Nxf6 16.Nh1!? a6 17.Nf2 Rb8 18.f4± White has the initiative. C. Sandipan - M. Leon Hoyos, Tromsø 2010

24 9...Re8 [Chapter]

(Diagram)

- 10.Be2 a6 [10...Qa5 11.0-0 a6 12.Bd2 Nbd7 13.a4 c4 (E. Kopasov - M. Rubinstein, corr. 2006) 14.Be3 Ne5 15.Bd4 h5 16.f4 Ned7 17.h4! Qc7 18.a5± White has a slight spatial advantage.]
- 11.a4 Nbd7 12.0-0 Rb8 [12...Ne5 13.h3 h5 14.Bg5 (V. Bogdanovski - P. Dimic, Skopje 2013) Qb6 15.Qd2 Nh7 16.Be3 Qb4 17.Rac1 h4 18.Nh1 Nf6 19.Nf2 Nh5 20.Rfe1= The position is objectively equal, although a touch more comfortable for White.]
- 13.Be3 h5 14.Qd2 Nh7 15.Bh6 [15.Nh1 Ne5 16.Nf2 f5 17.Kh1 (Y. Seirawan - J. Piket, Internet 2000) (17.f4 Ng4 18.Nxg4 hxg4 19.e5 dxe5 20.Bxc5 exf4 21.Bc4 (M. Notkin - V. Yasinsky, Smolensk 1992) Be6 22.Qxf4 Bf7 23.d6 Ng5 24.Bxf7+ Nxf7= The position is objectively equal, but precise play is required from both sides.; 17.h3 Nf6 18.Rae1 (M. Dziuba - P. Landgren, Hallsberg 2000) Nf7 19.Bd3 Bd7 20.exf5 gxf5 21.Bg5 b5= The chances are roughly equal, though better players should feel more comfortable.) 17...Nf6 18.Rab1 fxe4 19.Nfxe4 Bf5=]
- 15...Bd4+ 16.Be3 Bg7 17.Rfd1 h4 18.Nf1 h3 19.g3 (V. Ivanchuk - D. Andreikin, Havana 2011) 19...Ne5 20.a5 f5 21.f4 Nf7= The chances are roughly equal,

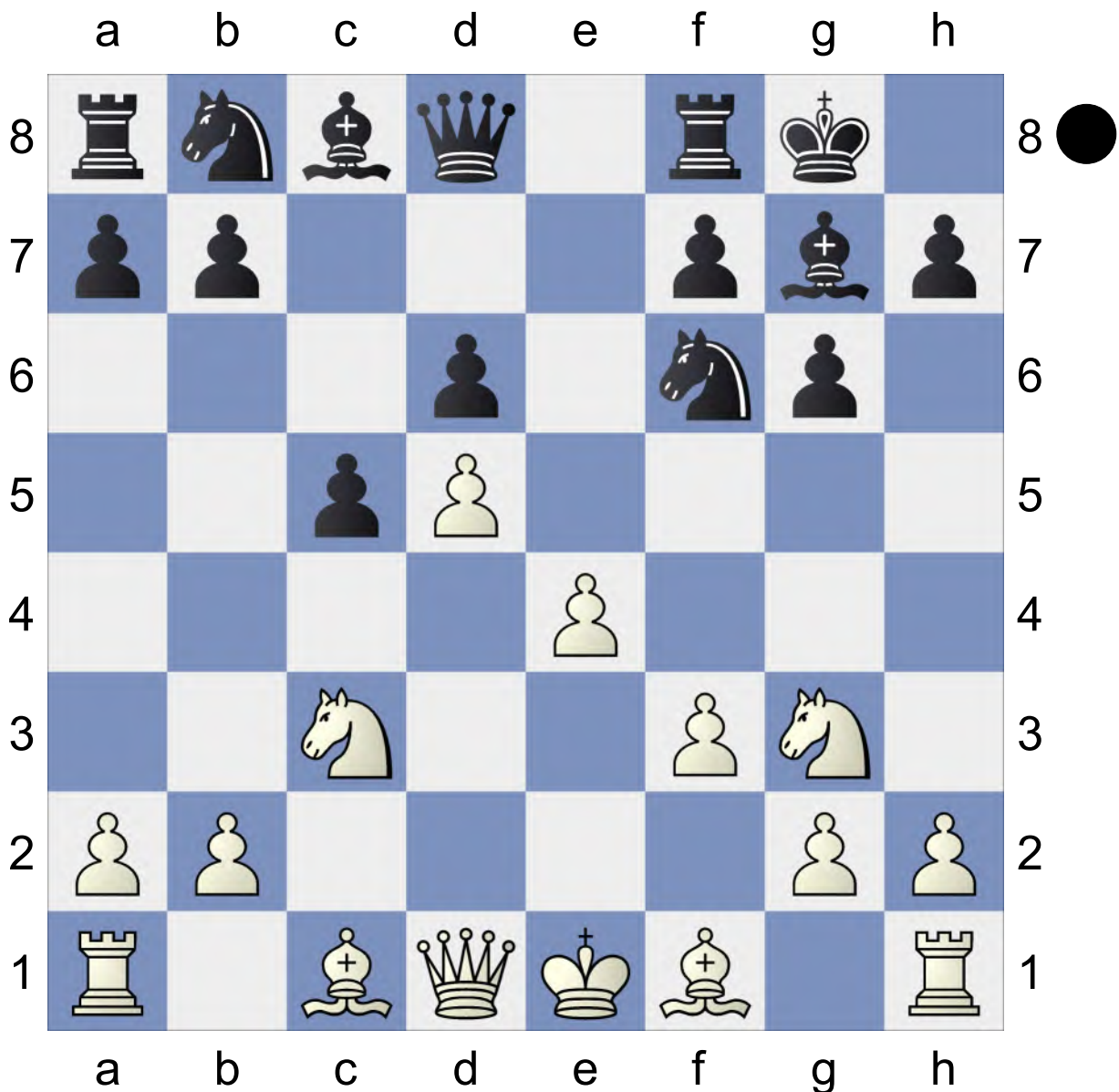


though better players should feel more comfortable.
[Chapter]

(Diagram)

9...h5 10.Be2

[10.Bg5 Qb6 (10...a6 11.a4= - 9... a6 10. a4 h5 11. Bg5) 11.Qb3 Qc7 12.Be2 a6 13.0-0 (13.a4 Nh7 14.Be3 Qe7 15.0-0 Nd7 (A. Dreev - V. Topalov, Elista 1998) 16.Nh1 f5 17.Nf2 g5 18.Bd2 f4= with mutual play.) 13...Nh7 14.Be3 Qe7 (14...h4 15.Nh1 f5 16.exf5 Bxf5 (A. Dreev - V. Bologan, Shanghai 2001) 17.g4!? hxg3 18.Nxg3 Nd7 19.Nxf5 gxf5= This position is very complicated, which favors better players.) 15.f4 h4 16.Nh1 (A. Dreev - V. Tkachiev, Cap d'Agde (rapid) 2000) Bd4!? 17.Bf2 Nd7 18.Qd1 Bxc3 19.bxc3 Qxe4 20.Bxh4



Qe3+ 21.Nf2 Re8 22.Bf3 Qxc3 23.Rc1= White has sufficient compensation for material deficit.]

10...a6

[10...h4 11.Nf1 Nh7

A) 12.Be3 f5 13.exf5 gxf5 (13...Bxf5 (A. Dreev - V. Tkachiev, Shanghai 2001) 14.g4! Bc8 15.Qc2 Nd7 16.0-0-0 Qe7 17.h3 g5 18.Re1 Ne5 19.Bd2± (with the idea Ne3, Ne4)) 14.Bf4 Qe7 15.Ne3 Nd7 16.Nc4 Ne5 17.0-0 Bd7 18.Qd2± A. Dreev - T. Radjabov, Dubai (rapid) 2002;

B) 12.Ne3 Nd7 13.0-0 Re8 14.Kh1 a6 15.a4± White has a moderate spatial advantage. P. Adams - N. Johnson, corr. 2001 Trajko Nedev: 'White has a moderate spatial advantage. J. Gallagher - F. Jenni, Biel 1998']

[10...Nh7 11.Be3 a6 12.0-0± - 10... a6 11. O-O Nh7 12. Be3 (12.a4= - 9... a6 10. a4 h5 11. Be2 Nh7 12. Be3)]

11.0-0

[11.a4= - 9... a6 10. a4 h5 11. Be2]

11...b5

[11...Nh7 12.Be3 b5 13.Qd2 Nd7 (13...h4 14.Nh1 f5 15.Nf2 Ra7 (A. Iljushin - N. Vitiugov, Budva 2009) 16.Nd3 Re7 17.Nf4 Qe8 18.Ne6! Bxe6 19.dxe6± White has the initiative.) 14.Rac1 Re8 (F. Hoelzl - J. Gallagher, Pula 1997) 15.a3 c4 16.Bd1±]

12.Bg5 Nbd7 13.Qd2 c4 14.Nh1 Nc5 15.Nf2 Qb6 16.Bh6 a5 17.Rab1 Bxh6

18.Qxh6 a4 19.Kh1= The position is objectively equal, although a touch more comfortable for White. P. Laurenc - L. Pirhala, corr. 2012

9...Nh5 10.Nxh5 gxh5 11.Bf4

[11.Bd3 f5 12.0-0

A) 12...Na6

A1) 13.Bf4 fxe4 14.fxe4 c4 15.Bxc4 Qb6+ 16.Kh1 Qxb2 (A. Dreev - A. Shchekachev, St Petersburg 1998) 17.Rc1! Bxc3 (17...Bg4 18.Qb3 Qxb3 19.axb3 Rxf4 20.Rxf4 Bh6 21.Rff1 Bxc1 22.Rxc1± White has a lasting advantage.) 18.Qxh5 Rxf4 19.Qg5+ Bg7 20.Qxf4 Qe5 21.Qf7+ Kh8 22.Bxa6 bxa6 23.h3 (with the idea Rc7-e7) a5 24.Rc7 Ba6 25.Rxa7 Rxa7 26.Qxa7 Bb5 27.Qxa5± White has the initiative.;

A2) 13.a3 Bd7 14.Kh1 (14.Qc2 Qf6 15.Kh1 Rac8 16.Be3 c4 17.Be2 b5 18.Bxa7 Nc5= Black has sufficient compensation for material deficit.)

14...Rc8 (14...f4?! 15.Ne2 Be5 16.g3 fxg3 17.Nxg3 Qh4 18.f4± I. Khenkin - A. Fishbein, New York 2000) 15.Qe2 f4 16.Bd2 Be5 17.Rab1± Black has difficulties reaching full equality.;

B) 12...Nd7 13.Bc2 (13.Ne2 c4! 14.Bc2 (1/2-1/2 A. Dreev - V. Bologan, Beijing 2000) fxe4 15.Nf4! Nc5 16.Nxh5 Be5 17.f4 Nd3 18.fxe5 Qb6+ 19.Kh1 Rxf1+ 20.Qxf1 Nf2+ 21.Kg1 Nh3+ 22.Kh1 Nf2+=) 13...Ne5 (13...f4?! 14.Ne2 Be5 (Houdini 1.5a - Houdini 3 Pro, Internet 2012) 15.g3! fxg3 16.hxg3 h4 17.f4 hxg3 18.Kg2 Bg7 19.Nxg3±) 14.Ne2 (14.Kh1 (C. Ward - M. White, Great Yarmouth 2007) Qf6 15.h3 f4 16.Ne2 Qg5 17.Qe1 h4= with mutual play.) 14...Ng6 (I. Khenkin - D. Reinderman, Ohrid 2001) (14...Qh4 (A. Dreev - Peng Xiaomin, Beijing 2000) 15.exf5 Bxf5 16.Bxf5 Rxf5 17.Ng3 Rff8 18.Ne4 Qe7 19.Ng5 Rf5 20.Ne6= The position is objectively equal, although a touch more comfortable for White.) 15.Ng3 fxe4 16.Nxe4 Bf5 17.Rb1 Qd7= This position is very complicated, which favors better players.]

11...a6

[11...f5 12.Qd2 a6 (E. Dearing - G. Jones, Hinckley Island 2008) 13.Bd3! b5 14.0-0 c4 15.Bc2 Nd7 16.Bh6 Bxh6 17.Qxh6 Qf6 18.Qxf6 Nxf6 19.exf5 b4 20.Ne2±]

12.Bd3

[12.a4= - 9... a6 10. a4 Nh5 11. Nxh5 gxh5 12. Bf4]

12...b5 13.Qd2 Qe7 14.Bh6 Nd7 15.Bxg7 Kxg7 16.0-0± Black has difficulties

reaching full equality.

9...Nbd7 10.Be2 h5

[10...a6 11.a4= - 9... a6 10. a4 Nbd7 11. Be2]

11.Bg5

[11.0-0 a6 (11...Nh7 12.Nh1 a6 13.a4 Trajko Nedev: '±' Trajko Nedev: '-' 9... Nbd7 10. Be2 h5 11. O-O Nh7 12. Nh1 a6 13. a4' f5 14.exf5 gxf5 15.Nf2 Ne5± V. Bologan - A. Grischuk, Beijing (blitz) 2012) 12.a4 h4 13.Nh1 Nh5 14.Be3 Bd4 (14...f5 15.f4 fxe4 16.Bxh5 gxh5 17.Qxh5 Nf6 18.Qxh4 Ng4 19.Qxd8 Rxd8= Black has sufficient compensation for material deficit. A. Naumann - J. Jorczik, Solingen 2014) 15.Bxd4 cxd4 16.Qxd4 Qg5 17.Rad1 f5 18.exf5 Nf4 19.g3 Rxf5 20.Bd3 Nh3+ 21.Kg2 Nf4+ 22.Kg1 Nh3+ 23.Kg2 Nf4+= Key game 1/2-1/2 B. Spassky - J. Polgar, Budapest 1993]

11...Qb6 12.Qd2

[12.Qb3 Qc7 13.0-0 Nh7 14.Be3 a6 15.a4 h4 16.Nh1 f5

A) 17.exf5 gxf5 18.Qc2 (A. Rempeli - M. Lammers, Internet (blitz) 2011) (18.Bd2 (E. Tomashevsky - A. Grischuk, Moscow 2012) Bd4+ 19.Nf2 Ne5 20.Kh1 Qg7± Black has the initiative.) 18...f4 19.Bd2 Bd4+ 20.Nf2 Ne5 21.Qc1 Qf7= The chances are roughly equal, though better players should feel more comfortable.;

B) 17.Nf2 Ne5 18.f4 Nf7 19.Qc4 fxe4 20.Nfxe4 Bf5= The position is objectively equal, but precise play is required from both sides.]

12...Nh7 13.Bh4!± - 8... h5 9. Bg5 Qb6 10. Qd2 exd5 11. cxd5 Nh7 12. Bh4 Nd7 13. Be2

²⁵ **10...Ne8** 11.Bd3

[11.Be3 f5 12.Qd2 fxe4! (12...Nd7 13.Be2 fxe4 14.Ngxe4 Ndf6 (A. Dreev - I. Glek, Krasnoyarsk 2003) 15.Ng5 Nc7 16.0-0 Re8 17.Nge4! Nxe4 18.fxe4± (with the idea Bg5)) 13.Ngxe4 Nf6 14.Bf4 (14.Be2 Nxe4 15.Nxe4 Bf5 16.Bg5 (H. Gretarsson - J. Ehlvest, Reykjavik 2010) Qc7 17.Nc3 c4 18.0-0 Nd7= The position is objectively equal, although a touch more comfortable for Black.) 14...Nxe4 15.Nxe4 Rxf4! 16.Qxf4 Bxb2 17.Ra2 Be5 18.Qg5 (M. Veccek - D. Gibney, corr. 2014) Qa5+ 19.Qd2 (19.Kf2?! Bf5 20.Bd3 Nd7± Black has more than adequate compensation for material deficit.) 19...Qd8 20.Bd3 Nd7 21.h4 Nf6= Black has sufficient compensation for material deficit.]

11...Nd7 12.0-0 Ne5 13.Be2 h5 14.Be3 h4 15.Nh1 f5 16.Qd2 Nf6 17.Nf2 h3 18.Nxh3 fxe4 (E. Bacrot - D. Anton Guijarro, Yerevan 2014) 19.fxe4 Bxh3 20.gxh3 Rf7 21.Kg2 Qe7 22.Bg5 Raf8 23.Rf4 Qe8= The chances are roughly equal, though better players should feel more comfortable.

10...Nbd7 11.Be2 Trajko Nedev: '=' Trajko Nedev: '-' 9... a6 10. a4 Nbd7 11. Be2' 11...h5

[11...Ne8 12.0-0 Rb8 13.Be3 Nc7 14.f4 b5

A) worse move is 15.axb5 Nxb5 16.Nxb5 (16.Bxb5?! axb5 17.e5 f5!± Black has a lasting advantage. D. Yevseev - A. Khalifman, Togliatti 2003)

16...axb5 17.Qd2 (M. Antonsen - E. Mortensen, Farum 1993) Nb6 18.e5 c4 19.exd6 Qxd6 (weakness d5);

B) 15.e5 bxa4 (D. Yevseev - A. Gorbato, Vladimir 2004) 16.Nxa4 dxe5 17.f5 Nb5 18.Bxb5 Rxb5 19.Qc2= White has sufficient compensation for material deficit.]

12.Bg5

[12.0-0 Re8 (12...Nh7 13.Nh1± - 9... Nbd7 10. Be2 h5 11. O-O Nh7 12. Nh1 a6 13. a4) 13.Nh1 Nh7 14.Nf2 Bd4 15.Bf4 (Deep Sjeng 3.0 - Deep Junior 13, Internet 2012) (15.Kh1 Qh4 16.Nd3 Ne5= The chances are roughly equal, though better players should feel more comfortable. N. Vitiugov - B. Gundavaa, Khanty-Mansiysk (rapid) 2013) 15...f5 16.Qd2 g5 17.Be3 Bxe3 18.Qxe3 f4 19.Qd2 Ne5= with mutual play.]

12...Rb8

[12...Qc7 13.Qd2= - 10... h5 11. Bg5 Qc7 12. Qd2 Nbd7 13. Be2]

[12...Re8 13.0-0

A) worse move is 13...Nf8 14.Qd2 N8h7

A1) 15.Be3 b6 16.Rab1 Nd7 (16...Bd7 (J. Gallagher - Z. Almasi, Warsaw 2013) 17.Bc4 h4 18.Nge2 Nh5 19.b4 f5 20.Bd3 Be5 21.exf5 gxf5 22.a5 Qe7 23.Bf2± White has the initiative.) 17.Nh1!? f5 18.Nf2 Ne5 19.Rbe1± White has a slight spatial advantage. I. Stohl - M. Meszaros, Hungary 2009;

A2) 15.Bh6 (C. Ionescu - B. Badea, Bucharest 1996) 15...Nd7 16.Bxg7 Kxg7 17.Rfe1 h4 18.Nf1 Nhf6 19.Ne3± White has a moderate spatial advantage.;

B) 13...Qa5 14.Qd2 Nh7 15.Bh6 Bd4+ 16.Be3 Qb4 17.Rfd1 Bxe3+ 18.Qxe3± White has the initiative. Glaurung 2.1 - Rybka 3, Internet 2008]

[12...Qe8?! 13.Qd2 Nh7 14.Bh6 Bxh6 (14...Qe5 15.Bxg7 Qxg7 16.Nf1! f5 17.exf5 gxf5 18.Ne3 Kh8 19.Nc4± White has a lasting initiative. Key game V. Ivanchuk - V. Kramnik, Las Palmas 1996) 15.Qxh6 Qe5 16.Nf1 Rb8 17.Nd2 Qf6 18.0-0± White has the initiative. W. So - J. Becerra Rivero, Internet 2014]

13.Qd2 Qc7= - 10... h5 11. Bg5 Qc7 12. Qd2 Nbd7 13. Be2 Rb8

10...Nh5 11.Nxh5 gxh5 12.Be2

[12.Bf4 Qh4+ (12...Qe7 13.Qd2 Nd7 (A. Grischuk - V. Bologan, Internet (blitz) 2004) 14.Be2 Ne5 15.0-0 Ng6 16.Bh6 f5 17.Rae1 Qe5 18.Be3±) 13.Bg3 (Houdini 2.0 Pro - Houdini 3 Pro, Internet (blitz) 2013) Qe7 14.Qd2 Nd7]

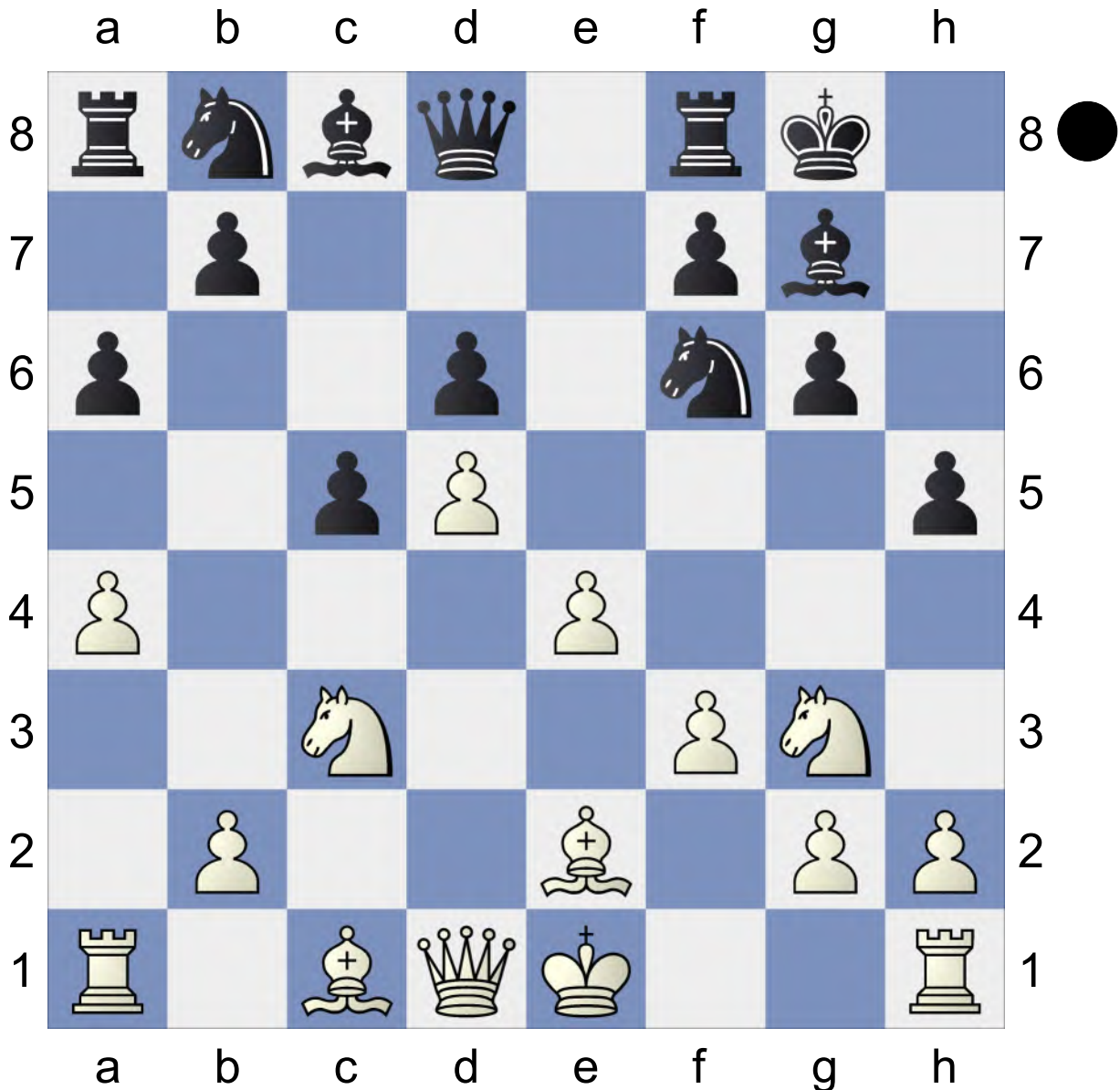
12...Qh4+ 13.g3 Qe7 (Key game A. Giri - B. Gelfand, Tashkent 2014) 14.Qd2 h6 15.0-0 Nd7 16.a5± White has the initiative.

²⁶ **11.Be2** [Chapter]

(Diagram)

Trajko Nedev: '= ' Trajko Nedev: '- 9... a6 10. a4 h5 11. Be2' 11...Nh7

[11...h4 12.Nf1 Nh7 (12...Nbd7 13.Bg5 h3 14.gxh3 Rb8 (V. Ivanchuk - E.



Bacrot, Cap d'Agde (rapid) 2013) 15.Ne3 Qc7 16.Qd2 Nh7 17.Bf4 Ne5 18.Ng4± White has the initiative.) 13.Ne3 (13.Be3= - 11... Nh7 12. Be3 h4 13. Nf1) 13...Nd7 14.0-0 Re8 15.Kh1± White has a moderate spatial advantage. J. Gallagher - F. Jenni, Biel 1998]

12.Be3 Trajko Nedev: '=' Trajko Nedev: '-' 9... a6 10. a4 h5 11. Be2 Nh7 12. Be3' 12...Nd7

[12...h4 13.Nf1 Trajko Nedev: '=' Trajko Nedev: '-' 11... Nh7 12. Be3 h4 13. Nf1'

A) 13...f5 14.exf5 (14.Nd2 Nd7 15.exf5 gxf5± - 14. exf5 gxf5 15. Nd2 Nd7) 14...gxf5

A1) 15.Bf4 Nd7 (15...Qf6 16.Ne3 Nd7 17.Nc4 Ne5 (V. Bologan - Ding Liren, Beijing (blitz) 2012) 18.Nxe5 dxe5 19.Be3 Qd6 20.Bc4± White has a lasting advantage.) 16.Bxd6 Re8 17.Nd2 (17.Qd2?! (Key game A. Dreev - V. Topalov, New Delhi/Teheran 2000) Nb6! 18.Bf4 Nc4 19.Qc2 Qa5

20.Bd2 Qb4 Black has more than adequate compensation for material deficit.) 17...Bd4 18.Nb3 Qf6 19.Bf4 Ne5= Black has sufficient compensation for material deficit.;

A2) 15.Nd2 Nd7 Trajko Nedev: '±' Trajko Nedev: '-' 14. exf5 gxf5 15. Nd2 Nd7' 16.0-0

A2a) 16...f4 17.Bf2 h3 (17...Ne5 18.Kh1 h3 19.g3± - 17... h3 18. g3 Ne5 19. Kh1) 18.g3 (18.g4 Ne5 19.Kh1 Bd7 (V. Napalkov - V. Grigoryev, corr. 2011) 20.Nde4 Be8 21.Qe1 Bg6 22.Bh4 Qc7 23.Qd2 Rae8 24.Nf2± Black has insufficient compensation for material deficit.) 18...Ne5 19.Kh1 Trajko Nedev: '±' Trajko Nedev: '-' 17... h3 18. g3 Ne5 19. Kh1' fxg3 20.Bxg3 Bf5 21.Rg1 Kh8 22.Nde4 Qe7 23.Qd2 Rae8 24.Rae1 Rg8 25.Bf4± White has the initiative. M. Freeman - A. Haugen, corr. 2010;

A2b) 16...Ne5 17.Kh1 Bd7 18.f4 (18.Nc4 Nxc4 19.Bxc4 Qb6 20.Ra2 Rae8= The chances are roughly equal, though better players should feel more comfortable. V. Korchnoi - Iv. Saric, Porto Carras 2011) 18...Ng4 19.Bg1 Nhf6 20.h3 Nh5! 21.hxg4 Ng3+ 22.Kh2 Nxf1+ 23.Nxf1 fxg4 24.Bxg4 Rxf4 25.Be6+ Bxe6 26.dxe6 (R. Markus - O. Gladyshev, Budapest 1999) Bxc3 27.bxc3 Qf6 28.Ne3 Qxe6 29.Qh5 Raf8 30.Qg5+ Kh8 31.a5± Black can maintain equality with accurate play.;

B) 13...Nd7= - Line 153 : 5. f3 O-O 6. Bg5 c5 7. d5 e6 8. Nge2 exd5 9. cxd5 Nbd7 10. Ng3 a6 11. a4 h6 12. Be3 h5 13. Be2 h4 14. Nf1 Nh7]

13.0-0 h4 14.Nh1 f5 15.Qd2

[15.exf5 gxf5 16.Nf2

A) worse move is 16...f4 17.Bd2 Ne5 18.Qc1! (18.Kh1 Nf6 (V. Korchnoi - I. Cheparinov, Porto Carras 2011) 19.Re1 Nh5 20.Nce4 Bf5 21.Bf1 Qd7 22.Bc3 Rae8 23.a5± White has slightly better pawn structure.) 18...Ng6 19.Bd3 Bf5 (19...Ne5 (T. Biedermann - A. Ponomarev, corr. 2013) 20.h3! Ng5 21.Kh1 Qf6 22.Ne2± (weakness f4)) 20.Bxf5 Rxf5 21.Qc2 Qd7 22.Rae1 Ne5 23.Nce4± (with the idea Bc3);

B) 16...Qe7 17.Qd2 (17.Bd2 Bd4 18.Kh1 (Deep Rybka 4 - Deep Rybka 4, Internet (blitz) 2010) Kh8 19.Nh3 Ne5 20.Qe1 Bd7 21.f4 Ng6 22.Bh5 Qxe1 23.Bxe1 Kg7 24.Bxg6 Kxg6 25.Bxh4 Rfe8= Black has sufficient compensation for material deficit.) 17...Re8 18.Bf4 Bd4= The chances are roughly equal, though better players should feel more comfortable.]

15...Qf6 16.exf5

[16.f4 fxe4 17.Nf2 Qe7

A) 18.Ncxe4 Ndf6 19.Nxf6+ Qxf6 20.Ne4 (20.b4?! (A. Dreev - A. Karpov, Reykjavik (rapid) 2004) Qc3! 21.bxc5 Re8 22.Bd3 Qxd2 23.Bxd2 Bxa1 24.Rxa1 Bf5 Black has insufficient compensation for material deficit.) 20...Qe7 21.Bf3 Bf5 22.Bf2 Bxe4 23.Rae1 Nf6 24.Bxh4 Rae8 25.b3 Bh6 26.Bxf6 Qxf6 27.Bxe4 Bxf4= Equal chances, quiet position. A. Cabrera Pino - J. Varela Mourin, corr. 2007;

B) 18.g4 hxc3 19.hxc3 (M. Narciso Dublan - A. Zhigalko, Turin 2006) Re8 (19...g5 20.fxc5 Ne5 21.Nfxe4 Bh3 (E. Degtiarev - K. Kachiani Gersinska, Bad Koenigshofen 2007) 22.Rxf8+ Rxf8 23.Bf4± White can increase his advantage with accurate play.) 20.Rfe1 b6= The chances are roughly equal, though better players should feel more comfortable.]

16...gxf5 17.Nf2 f4

[17...Ne5 18.Nh3 Ng6 19.f4 Re8 20.Bh5 Bd7 21.a5 Re7 22.Bf2± A. Dreev - I. Nataf, Calvia 2004]

18.Ng4 Qg5 19.Bf2 Ne5 20.Ne4 Qe7 21.Nxe5 Bxe5 22.Kh1

[22.Rae1 (A. Dreev - T. Radjabov, Warsaw 2005) Ng5 23.Bd1 b5 24.Kh1 Nxe4 25.Rxe4 Bf5 26.Re2 Qf6=]

22...Nf6 23.Bd3 Nxe4 24.Bxe4 Bd7

²⁷ **11...Qb6** 12.Qd2 Nh7 13.a5 Qc7 14.Bh6

[14.Bh4 Nd7 15.Be2 b5 16.axb6 Qxb6 17.0-0 a5 (17...Rb8 18.Ra2 Re8 19.Nh1 Qb4 20.Nf2± N. Vitiugov - G. Guseinov, Antalya 2013) 18.Kh1 Ba6 19.f4 Bxe2 20.Ngxe2 Rfb8 21.Ra2 Qa6 22.f5 Rb4= This position is very complicated, which favors better players.]

14...h4 15.Bxg7 Kxg7 16.Nge2

[16.Na4 Nd7 17.Ne2= - 16. Nge2 Nd7 17. Na4]

16...Nd7

[16...Qe7 17.Na4 Nd7 18.Ra3 Rb8 19.Re3 Qf6 20.Nc1 Ne5 21.Be2 b5! 22.axb6 Bd7 23.Nc3 Rxb6= This position is very complicated, which favors better players. R. Edouard - S. Feller, Bois-Colombes 2012]

17.Na4 Trajko Nedev: '= Trajko Nedev: '- 16. Nge2 Nd7 17. Na4' 17...b5 18.axb6 Nxb6 19.Nf4

[19.Nec3 (A. Iljushin - F. Amonatov, Moscow 2009) Bd7 20.b3 Nxa4 21.Nxa4 h3 22.g3 f5! 23.Qc3+ Nf6 24.Bxh3 Rab8= Black has sufficient compensation for material deficit.]

19...Nxa4 20.Rxa4 Bd7 21.Qc3+

[21.Rxa6 Rxa6 22.Bxa6 Qa7 23.Be2 Qa1+ 24.Bd1 Rb8 25.Nd3 Bb5 26.Nc1 Nf6= Black has sufficient compensation for material deficit. A. Dreev - F. Amonatov, Moscow 2007]

21...Nf6 22.Ra2 Bb5 23.b3 Qb6

11...Qc7 12.Qd2 Trajko Nedev: '= Trajko Nedev: '- 8... exd5 9. cxd5 a6 10. a4 h5 11. Bg5 Qc7 12. Qd2' 12...Nbd7

[12...Nh7 13.Bh6 h4 14.Bxg7 Kxg7 15.Nge2 Nd7 16.Nf4 Ne5 I. Gromova - A. Kashlinskaya, Rijeka 2010]

[12...Re8 13.Be2 Nh7 14.Bh6 Bd4 15.Be3 Bh8 16.0-0 Nd7 (A. Dreev - V. Topalov, New Delhi/Teheran 2000) 17.Rfc1 f5 18.Rab1 h4 19.Nh1±]

13.Be2 Trajko Nedev: '= Trajko Nedev: '- 10... h5 11. Bg5 Qc7 12. Qd2 Nbd7 13. Be2' 13...Rb8

[13...Re8 14.0-0

A) 14...Nh7 15.Bh6 Bh8

A1) 16.Rac1 Qa5 17.Nh1! c4 18.Ra1 Qb4 (T. Kluge - R. Migliorini, corr. 2006) (18...Nc5 19.Bxc4 Qb4 20.Qe2 g5 21.h4± White has the initiative. A. Dreev - V. Kotronias, Las Vegas 1999) 19.Bd1!? Nc5 20.Nf2 Be5 21.Be3± (with the idea Bd4);

A2) 16.Be3 Bg7 17.Rfc1!? b6 18.Rab1 f5 19.b4± White has the initiative. A. Thaler - R. Butze, corr. 1999;

B) 14...Rb8 15.Rfc1 Nh7 16.Bh6 Bh8 17.Rab1 Ne5 18.Be3± (with the idea b4) Key game A. Jussupow - V. Kotronias, Germany 1996]

14.0-0

[14.Bh6 c4 15.Bxg7 Kxg7 16.a5 (V. Korchnoi - Xie Jun, Arnhem 1999) Re8 17.Na4 b5 18.axb6 Nxb6 19.Nxb6 Qxb6 20.Bxc4 h4 21.Ne2 Qxb2 22.Qxb2 Rxb2= Equal chances, quiet position.]

14...c4 15.Rab1

[15.Be3 h4 16.Nh1

A) 16...h3 17.Nf2 hxg2 18.Kxg2 Nh5 19.f4 Nh6 (V. Anand - H. Nakamura, Moscow 2011) 20.Bd4! Nc5 (20...Re8 21.Rfc1 b6 22.b4±) 21.Qe3 b5 22.Bxc5 Qxc5 23.Qxc5 dxc5 24.axb5 axb5 25.Rfd1± Black has difficulties reaching full equality.;

B) 16...Nc5 17.Bxc4 Ncxe4 18.Nxe4 (D. Svetushkin - K. Markidis, Kavala 2006) (18.fxe4 Qxc4 19.Nf2 Bd7=) 18...Qxc4 19.Nhf2 Nxd5 20.Nxd6 Qc6 21.Nxc8 Rbxc8 22.Rfc1 Qe6= Equal chances, quiet position.]

15...Re8 16.b4 cxb3 17.Rxb3 Nc5 18.Rb4 (Key game A. Giri - E. Bacrot, Bilbao 2014) 18...Nfd7 19.Be3 Ne5 20.Bd4 h4 21.Nh1 h3 22.g3 f5 23.Nf2 fxe4 24.Ncxe4 Nxe4 25.Nxe4 Bf5 26.Rc1 Qe7= The chances are roughly equal, though better players should feel more comfortable.

²⁸ **13.Bf4** Qe7 14.Nge2

[14.0-0 Nd7 15.Qd2 (15.Bc2 Ne5 16.Nge2 (E. Malchev - K. Piersig, corr. 2014) f5 17.exf5 Bxf5 18.a5 h4 19.h3 Nc4= with mutual play.) 15...Ne5 16.Be2 h4 17.Nh1 f5 18.exf5 (E. Tomashevsky - Ding Liren, St Petersburg 2012) h3!? 19.g3 Bxf5 20.Nf2 g5 21.Be3 Rae8 22.Rae1 Ng6= This position is very complicated, which favors better players.]

14...Nd7 15.0-0 h4 16.h3 Ne5 17.Bc2 Bd7 18.a5 Rae8 19.Ba4 f5 20.Bxd7 Qxd7 21.exf5 gxf5 22.Ra4 Ng6 Best Mutual Play Key game N. Vitiugov - I. Cheparinov, Caleta (rapid) 2014

²⁹ If one doesn't like the type of positions that occur in this game for Black, then one could choose A very common move, but a tricky opponent might prefer the immediate **5...c5!?** e.g. . In that case I believe that White should advance his d-pawn in his quest for an opening advantage. BEWARE! The problem is that in this precise position 6.d5 ChessPublishing.com: 'could transpose, but...'
[6.dxc5 is far less effective: Qa5 7.Bd3 Nfd7 '!' 8.Bd2 (unfortunately White has

nothing better) Nxc5 9.Bc2 Nc6 10.Nd5 (10.Nf3 Bg4 Flear, G - Damaso, R Spanish league 2004, panned out in Black's favour 11.Nd5 Qd8 12.Bc3 Bxc3+ 13.Nxc3 e5! and in G.Flear-R.Damaso, Spanish Team Championship 2004, Black had in fact already taken the advantage!) 10...Qd8 11.Bc3 ChessPublishing.com: '!' ChessPublishing.com: 'Timman,J-Damaso, R/Breda 1998.' (11.b4 Nd7 12.Rb1 e6 13.Nc3 Nb6 14.Bd3 0-0 15.Nf3 Gretarsson, H - Alquist, E 2019, and now d5! would put the cat amongst the pigeons) 11...Bxc3+ 12.Nxc3 led to a white win in Timman, J - Damaso, R Breda 1998 (see the archives), but it has since become clear that Black can play e5!? 13.Qd2 Be6 14.b3 exf4 15.0-0-0 0-0 16.Nge2 Qa5 Gretarsson, H - Kuzmin, A Andorra 1999, with a good game] 6...0-0 as an alternative move order to get into the main lines of the Four Pawns KID/ Benoni. In this case, it's generally recognized that 6.dxc5 is an inferior version for the first player (than the main game) as after 6...Qa5 etc White is further away from castling and consolidation. The notes above demonstrate this point. 7.Bd3 e6 8.Nge2 and White lost in only a few moves, Svendsen,M-Porrasmaa,T/ Eikrem Memorial, Gausdal, Norw 2000

5...Bg4!? 6.Nf3

[Instead 6.Qb3!? makes sense to me, hitting b7 and leaving the g4-bishop floating around. Trajko Nedev: '?!' Nc6! 7.Be3 e5 Black has the initiative. K. Troff - D. Naroditsky, Saint Louis 2011]

[Vigorito, D: 'This is the most natural perhaps, even though I would think this is what Black wants to see. Now the bishop is pinning the knight, rather than just aiming into space. White has also done well with' 6.Be2 Bxe2 Vigorito, D: 'and either recapture.' 7.Qxe2 (7.Ngxe2 0-0 8.0-0 Na6 9.Ng3 c5 10.d5 Nc7 11.Be3 Qd7 B. Bourgois - M. Roeder, Cappelle-la-Grande 2014) 7...Nc6 8.Nf3 e5 9.fxe5 dxe5 10.d5 (10.dxe5 Ng4 11.Bg5 Nd4 12.Bxd8 Nxe2 13.Bxc7 Nxc3 14.bxc3 0-0 15.Rb1 b6 16.c5 (R. Bonnmann - D. Hausrath, Germany 2002) Rfe8 17.cxb6 axb6 18.0-0 Nxe5= Equal chances, quiet position.) 10...Nd4 (M. Willsch - D. Hausrath, Germany 2004) 11.Qd3 0-0 12.0-0 Nd7 13.Be3 c5 14.b3= The position is objectively equal, although a touch more comfortable for White.]

6...Bxf3 7.gxf3!? Akobian,V-Shulman,Y/Saint Louis USA 2011.

[Vigorito, D: 'Already at move 7 we have a new position in a game between 2600+ players!' 7.Qxf3 Nc6 Vigorito, D: 'has been seen a few times.'

A) 8.d5 Nd4 9.Qd1 c5 10.Be3 (10.dxc6 Nxc6 should also be fine for Black, who has a structure similar to some lines of the 5...c5 6.dxc5 Four Pawns Attack, but here White is not well developed) 10...Qb6 (10...Nd7) 11.Rb1 Ng4 a mistaken plan (11...0-0) 12.Bd2 f5?! 13.Qa4+ Kf7 14.Bd3 Rhf8 15.h3 Nf6 16.exf5 gxf5 17.0-0 with a clear advantage for White in Maksimenko, A (2495) -Scalcione, M (2292)/Milan 2001.;

B) Vigorito, D: 'Black has reasonable play after' 8.Be3 e5

B1) or 9.dxe5 dxe5 10.Rd1 Qe7 (not 10...Nd4?! 11.Bxd4 exd4 12.e5!);

B2) 9.fxe5 dxe5 10.d5 Nd4 11.Qd1 0-0= This position is very complicated,

which favors better players. M. Kantorik - M. Markovic, Szombathely 2003]

7...0-0

[7...Nbd7 8.Be3 Nh5 9.Qd2 0-0 (V. Akobian - Y. Shulman, Saint Louis 2011)

A) 10.f5 This position is similar to a line in the Modern Defence with ...c6, but here White has played c2-c4 as well. c5 11.d5 Qa5 12.Be2 gxf5 (This looks shaky. 12...a6 13.a4 Qb4 would be a natural sequence. 14.f4 Nhf6 ∞) 13.exf5 Bxc3 14.bxc3 Kh8 Here is Black's idea - he will contest the g-file himself. With White's pawn structure so broken up, the knights can hold off the bishops. 15.Kf2 Rg8 16.Bh6 Ndf6 (16...Ne5!/?) 17.Bd3 Rae8 18.Rhe1 White will not create anything on the e-file and he immediately retraces his steps. Qd8 19.Rg1 (It would be useful to throw in 19.Rab1 as b6 is committal as it would shut Black's queen out of the queenside.) 19...Qd7 20.Rxg8+ Rxg8 21.Re1 Qd8 22.a4 Nd7 23.Rg1 Rxg1 24.Kxg1 with the rooks exchanged neither side is able to achieve much. Nhf6 25.Kf1 Ng8 26.Bg5 Ne5 27.Be2 Qe8 28.f4 Nd7 29.Qe3 Ndf6 30.Bd1 ½-½ (30) Akobian,V (2611)-Shulman,Y (2622) Saint Louis USA 2011 [Vigorito, D];

B) 10.0-0-0 e6 11.Kb1 Bh6 12.Rg1± White is exerting kingside pressure.]

8.Be3 (DisasterArea 1.54 - Texel 1.04, Internet (blitz) 2014) 8...Nh5 9.Qb3 Bh6 10.Ne2 c5 11.d5 Nd7

5...e5 6.dxe5 Nh5 7.Nf3 Bg4 8.Be2 Bxf3 9.Bxf3 Qh4+ 10.Ke2 Nxf4+ 11.Bxf4 Qxf4 12.Nd5 Qxe5 13.Nxc7+ Kd7 14.Nxa8 Qxb2+ 15.Qd2 Qxd2+ 16.Kxd2 Bxa1 17.Rxa1 Nc6 18.Bg4+ Ke8 19.Rb1 h5 20.Bf3 Na5 21.Rb5 b6 22.Kc3 Kd7 23.e5 dxe5 24.Rxe5 Nc6 25.Rd5+ Kc8 26.Rd6 Ne5 27.Bd5 Kb8 28.Kd4 Re8 29.h4 Kc8 30.c5 bxc5+ 31.Kxc5 Kb8 32.Kd4 Kc8 33.Rf6 Re7 34.Rf2 Kb8 35.Rb2+ Kc8 36.Rc2+ Kb8 37.Nc7 Kc8 38.Nb5+ Kd8 39.Rc7 Nd7 40.Rxa7 Re2 41.Nc3 Rd2+ 42.Ke3 Rc2 43.Kd3 Rf2 44.Bf3 Ne5+ 45.Ke3 Rc2 46.Kd4 Nxf3+ 47.gxf3 Rh2 48.Rxf7 Rxh4+ 49.Ne4 Rh2 50.a4 h4 51.Rf4 h3 52.Rh4 Ra2 53.Rxh3 Rxa4+ 54.Ke5 Ke7 55.Rh7+ Kf8 56.Rd7 Ra3 57.f4 Ra5+ 58.Rd5 Ra6 59.Rd6 Ra5+ 60.Kf6

[Houdini 2.0 w32: 60.Ke6 Kg7 61.Nf6 Kh6 62.Ng4+ Kh5 63.Rd5+ Kxg4 64.Rxa5 Kxf4 65.Kf6 Ke4 66.Ra4+ Kf3 67.Kxg6 Ke3 68.Kf5 Kd3 69.Ke5 Ke3 70.Rd4 Kf3 71.Rd3+ Kf2 72.Kf4 Ke2 73.Rd8 Kf2 74.Re8 Kg2 75.Re2+ Kg1 76.Kf5 Kf1 5.90/25]

60...Rf5+ 61.Kxg6 Rxf4 62.Ng5 Ke7 63.Re6+ Kd7 ½-½ (63) Canella,P (1949)-Goncalves,A Rio de Janeiro 2012 EXT 2022 [ChessBase II]

³⁰ **6...a6** 7.Bd3 Bg4 8.Be3 Nfd7 9.0-0 Nc6 10.d5 Nd4 11.Qd2 Bxf3 12.gxf3 c5 13.Ne2 b5± Atanu,L-Thipsay,P/ch-IND, Mumbai IND 2000.

6...Nbd7?! is passive, 7.e5

[7.Be2 e5 (7...c5 8.d5 b5 9.cxb5 a6 10.a4 axb5 11.Bxb5 Ba6 12.Bxa6 Rxa6 13.Qe2± Black has insufficient compensation for material deficit. T. Halliwell - A. Larsen, corr. 2012) 8.fxe5 dxe5 9.dxe5 Ng4 10.Bg5 Qe8 11.Nd5 Ngxe5 12.Bh4! Rb8 (12...Nxf3+ 13.gxf3 Qe5 14.Rb1 f5 15.exf5 Kh8 16.Bg3 Qxf5

- 17.Nxc7 Rb8 18.0-0 Ne5 19.b3 Qf7 20.Nd5 Bf5 21.Rc1± Black has difficulties reaching full equality.) 13.0-0 Nxf3+ 14.Bxf3± White has a moderate spatial advantage. Critter 1.4 - Gull 1.2, Internet 2012]
- 7...Ne8 8.c5 c6 9.Be3 dxc5 10.dxc5 Qa5 11.a3 Qc7 12.Bc4± Banikas, H-Euthimiadis,A, Open, Ano Liosia GRE 2000, Black wasn't allowed a single tempo to get his act together.
- 6...Bg4** 7.Be2 Nfd7
[7...Nbd7]
- 8.Be3 Trajko Nedev: '±' Trajko Nedev: '-' 7. Be3 Nfd7 8. Be2'
[8.0-0 c5 (8...Nc6; 8...Bxf3) 9.d5 Na6 (9...Bxc3!? 10.bxc3∞) 10.Ng5 Bxe2 11.Qxe2 Nc7 12.e5 dxe5 13.f5 Un sacrifice thématique Ne8N (13...Nf6 14.fxg6 hxg6 15.Qf2 Qd7 16.h3 Nh7 17.Nxh7 Kxh7 18.Ne4 f5 19.Ng5+ Kg8 20.Qh4 Rf6 21.Qh7+ Kf8 22.Ne4 Kf7 23.Bh6 Rg8 24.Ng5+ Kf8 25.Rae1 Qd6 26.Bxg7+ Rxg7 27.Qh8+ Rg8 28.Nh7+ Kf7 29.Ng5+ ½-½ (29) Nikolaidis,I (2533)-Postny,E (2556) Porto Carras 2005) 14.Qd3 (14.Nce4) 14...h6 15.Nge4 Nd6 16.Nxd6 exd6 17.Ne4 (17.fxg6!? fxg6 18.Rxf8+ Nxf8 19.Bd2 Qe7 20.Rf1±) 17...Nf6 18.Bd2 a6 19.fxg6 fxg6 20.Nxf6+ Rxf6 21.Qe4 Kh7 22.h4 Qe8 23.h5 Suite illisible et nulle au 71ème coup à-à (23) Nguyen,C (2372)-Manolache,M (2501) Metz 2013 EXT 2016 [Metz Alekhine/Primel,D]]
- 8...e5 Trajko Nedev: '?!'
[8...Bxf3 9.Bxf3 c5 10.d5 Qa5 11.Qc2 Nb6 12.Be2 Na4 13.Rc1 Nxc3 14.bxc3± White has a slight spatial advantage. Texel 1.04 - Octochess r5190, Internet 2014]
- 9.fxe5 dxe5 10.d5 Bxf3 11.Bxf3 Bh6
[11...Qe7 12.0-0 a5 13.a3 Na6 14.Rb1 Trajko Nedev: '±' Trajko Nedev: '(with the idea b4) W. Moranda - R. Kempinski, Wroclaw (blitz) 2014' f5 15.b4 axb4 16.axb4 b6 17.d6 cxd6 18.exf5 e4 19.Nd5 Qe5 20.Bg4 gxf5 21.Rxf5 Rxf5 22.Bxf5 Nab8 23.Bf4 Qd4+ 24.Qxd4 Bxd4+ 25.Kh1 Ne5 26.Bxe4 Ra2 27.Ne7+ Kf8 28.Nf5 Bc3 29.h3 Nxc4 30.Nxd6 Nd2 31.Rc1 Bxb4 32.Rc8+ Ke7 33.Nf5+ Kd7 34.Bxd2 Bxd2 35.Rh8 Ra1+ 36.Kh2 h6 37.g3 Na6 38.Ra8 Bc3 39.Bd3 Nc5 40.Rxa1 Bxa1 41.Bb5+ Moranda,W (2591)-Kempinski,R (2626) Wroclaw 2014 ½-½]
- 12.Bf2
[12.Bxh6 Qh4+ 13.g3 Qxh6 (M. Turov - F. Amonatov, Dagomys 2008) 14.Qe2 a5 15.0-0 Nc5 16.Rf2 Nba6 17.Raf1± (line f)]
- 12...Qe7
[12...a5 13.Rb1 Na6 14.a3± (with the idea b4, O-O) M. Cebalo - Z. Kozul, Pula 2001]
- 13.0-0 Qb4N
[13...a5 14.a3 Na6 15.Rb1 b6 16.b4 axb4 17.axb4 Rfd8 18.Nb5 c5 19.d6 Qf8 20.bxc5 Naxc5 21.Bh4 f6 22.Bg4 Be3+ 23.Kh1 Qh6 24.Bxf6 Nxf6 25.Rxf6 Kg7 26.Rf3 Nxe4 27.Qe2 Nd2 28.Rh3 Qf4 29.Re1 Bf2 30.Rd1 Ra2 31.Nc3 Rxd6 32.Nxa2 h5 33.Bf3 e4 34.Bxh5 Bc5 35.Nc3 e3 36.Nd5 Rxd5

37.cxd5 Ne4 38.Rf3 Qg5 39.Rdf1 Qxh5 40.Rf7+ Kh6 41.Qxh5+ Kxh5 42.g4+ Kxg4 43.R7f4+ Moskalenko,V (2505)-Ermenkov,E (2505) Wijk aan Zee 1992 1-0]
 14.a3! Qxb2 15.Na4 Qd2 16.Qb3 b6 17.c5 Na6 18.Rfd1 Qa5 19.c6! Ndc5
 20.Nxc5 Nxc5 21.Qb4! Qxb4 22.axb4 Nb3 23.Ra3 Nd2 24.Rda1↑ f5 25.Rxa7
 Rac8 26.Re1 Nxf3+ 27.gxf3 Bd2 28.Rb1 fxe4 29.fxe4 Rf4 30.b5 Rxe4 31.Rxc7
 Rf8 32.d6 Rg4+ 33.Bg3 Bg5 34.d7 Rc4 35.Rc8 Bd8 36.Rf1 1-0 (36) Piceu,T
 (2378)-Gazik,I (2273) Vaujany 2017 EXT 2018 [ChessBase II]

The rare **6...c6** was seen in Christiansen-Shabalov, USA-Ch Saint Louis USA
 2009: 7.Be2 a6 8.0-0 b5 9.e5 Ne8 10.c5 Nc7 11.cxd6 exd6 12.Ne4 Ne8
 13.Be3 Qe7 14.Bf2 Be6 15.Nfg5 Nd7 16.Nxe6 fxe6 17.g3 d5 18.Ng5 Bh6
 19.Nf3 Ng7 ...all this looks suspicious for Black, what to say?

³¹ **7...Nh5** 8.Be2 c5 9.d5 Bh6∞ Lalic,B-Hebden,M/Kilkenny 1998

7...dxe5?! 8.fxe5 Black has his usual choice of knight moves here, but the early exchange is definitely in White's favour not least because he can always support his e5-bridgehead with Bf4 if needed. 8...Nd7

[Black has also retreated with 8...Ne8, but after 9.Be2 f6 10.Bf4 White retained the upper hand in R.Leitao-B.Ivanovic, Yerevan Olympiad 1996. That continued c5 (Belov points out that 10...fxe5 11.Bxe5 Nf6 12.0-0 c5 13.d5 leaves Black in some trouble too) 11.dxc5! Qa5 (White had prepared to meet 11...Qxd1+ 12.Rxd1 Nxc5 with 13.Nd5, keeping up the pressure) 12.Be3 fxe5 13.0-0 e4 14.Qd5+ e6 15.Qxe4 Nxc5 16.Qh4 and White had managed to whip up a strong attack.]

9.Bf4!

[White can also exploit the absence of the usual central tension with 9.c5!? , which also appears promising. L.Radice-P.Baracca, Porto Mannu 2007, continued c6 (Black might try to untangle too with 9...Ndb8 when I quite like Konikowski and Soszynski's suggestion of 10.Bc4 Nc6 11.Be3 Bg4 12.0-0 , which looks quite promising) 10.Bc4 Nc7 11.Bg5 Kh8 (Black fails to weaken White's grip too with 11...b5 12.Bb3 b4 13.Ne4 Ba6 14.Qd2) 12.h4!? h5 13.Qc2 and Black remained passive and in some trouble with White all set to go long.]

9...c5

[Natural enough. Otherwise, 9...f6 10.e6 Nb6 11.d5 c6 12.Qb3! maintains control and some advantage,]

[as did the more ambitious 9...Nb6 10.h3!? f6 11.Qd2 c5 12.exf6 Bxf6 13.Bh6 Re8 14.0-0-0!? cxd4 15.Nxd4 in M.Vokac-M.Petrov, Pardubice 1997.]

10.d5 How Black must have been regretting allowing White to stabilize his centre with 9 Bf4 when this position arose in A.Belozerov-A.Beletsky, Tomsk 2002. 10...--
 Rolling Forwards-C: 7...dxe5

[Perhaps he should now have tried the slightly desperate 10...e6!? 11.Be2 f6 ,]
 [since 10...Qc7 11.Qe2! e6? 12.0-0-0 exd5 13.Nxd5 left him in huge trouble in the game.]

7...Ne8 8.Be2

[Straightforward development as in Line A1. White may also be able to obtain an edge with 8.Be3 and, furthermore, there are two rarer approaches which may please creative and/or aggressive souls:]

[a) 8.c5!?

A) not essential, but 8...dxe5 9.fxe5 gives White a handy grip with his advanced centre: for example, f6 (or 9...Bg4 10.Be3 c6 11.Bc4 Nec7 12.0-0 b5 and now in P.Dittmar-A.Kochyev, Gausdal 1991, 13.cxb6!? axb6 14.Qb3 would have retained a pull by preventing b5? on account of 15.Bxf7+! Rxf7 16.Ng5) 10.Bc4+ Kh8 11.exf6!? Nxf6 12.0-0 Nb4 13.a3 Nbd5 14.Ne5 with a pull despite the weakness of d5;

B) 8...dxc5 9.d5 is an idea which has seen more testing with Black's knight on d7 rather than e8. There 9...Nb6 has been shown to give Black decent counterplay, but here it is harder for him to untangle. White certainly has reasonable play for his pawn and f6 10.Bc4 fxe5 11.fxe5 Bg4 12.Qe2

B1) the greedy 12...Rf5!? may improve, although after 13.0-0! Bxf3 14.Rxf3 Rxe5 White has 15.Re3 which retains reasonable pressure for the two pawns, (and the reader may also wish to investigate the line 15.d6+ Kh8 16.Qxe5!? Bxe5 17.Rf8+ Kg7 18.Rg8+ Kf6 when White has at least a perpetual, but may be able to play for more with 19.Bd2!?) ;

B2) 12...Bxf3?! 13.gxf3 Kh8?! was the course of U.Bode-H.Machelett, German League 1994, and now I'm at a loss to explain why White didn't throw his h-pawn into the attack: 14.h4! Rf5 (14...h6 15.h5 g5 16.Qe4 is even worse for Black) 15.f4 Rh5 16.Be3 and 17 Ne4 will follow with a crushing position.]

[b) 8.h4!? echoes Line A2 with which comparisons should be made. Certainly on e8 the knight does clog up Black's position to some extent: c5 (or 8...f6 9.Be3!? dxe5 10.dxe5 Bg4 11.Be2 with a pull due to the two misplaced black knights) 9.dxc5 Bg4 (9...Nxc5!? may well be more critical and doesn't look too clear after 10.h5 Bg4 11.hxg6 hxg6 12.Be3 Nc7), and now White continued in ambitious vein with 10.h5!? in M.Chojnowski-W.Kardasz, Olsztyn 2005, (but he should probably have preferred the materialistic 10.cxd6 exd6 11.Be3, which appears promising especially as Bxf3 12.Qxf3 dxe5 13.Rd1 Qa5 14.Rd5! maintains the initiative and dangerous attacking chances.)]

Returning to the calmer 8 Be2: 8...c5

[Black must challenge in the centre; 8...c6?! 9.0-0 Nac7 fails to do so and after 10.h3 White has a pleasant advantage, which continued to grow following d5 11.c5! b5 12.Bd3 f5 13.Ne2 a5 14.Bd2 Ne6 15.Qe1 b4 16.a3! with the advantage on both flanks in I.Turova-B.Sambuev, St Petersburg 2000.]

[Likewise 8...Bg4?! isn't recommended and 9.h3 Bxf3 10.Bxf3 c6 11.Be3 e6 12.0-0 d5 13.cxd5 cxd5 14.Qb3 again left Black passive and struggling despite having managed to close the centre in I.Hausner-L.Hackel, Prague 2003.]

9.d5

[Logical enough and relatively common, but it's possible that 9.dxc5!? Nxc5 10.Be3 is even better with Black having to untangle his knight from e8. The only game to feature this choice continued

A) or 10...Nc7 11.0-0 and now both Bf5 (and 11...Bg4 12.h3 Bxf3 13.Bxf3) 12.Nd4 leave White doing pretty well; his bishops are the better placed and he will either inflict an isolated pawn on d6 or advance on the queenside;

B) 10...Be6 11.0-0 b6?! 12.Qe1 (no less promising is expansion with 12.b4!? Nb7 13.Qb3) 12...dxe5 13.Rd1! Qc7 14.fxe5 Nd7 (the point of White's play is that 14...Bxe5 15.Nxe5 Qxe5 16.Bd4 Qc7 17.Qh4 supplies excellent dark-square chances for the pawn) 15.Nb5 Qc8 and now White had a pleasant choice between the simple 16.Bf4 (and the more direct 16.Qh4!? Nxe5 17.Ng5, which retained decent compensation in M.Orsag-M.Mrva, Montecatini Terme 1997.)]

9...Bg4 10.Ng5! DANGEROUS WEAPON! Black was hoping to reduce both his cramp and White's attacking chances with an exchange on f3, but this aggressive leap cuts across his plans and leaves him struggling for counterplay.

10...Bxe2

[It's also possible to go backwards and after 10...Bf5 White is yet to go in for the critical 11.e6! in practice. I'm not sure why, though, as this just looks quite promising: fxe6 12.g4 h6 (otherwise Black just loses a piece) 13.gxf5 hxf5 14.fxc6 gxf4 and now both 15.h4!? (and 15.dxe6 Nac7 16.0-0 Be5 17.Bd3 Nxe6 18.Qg4 appear rather strong.)]

11.Qxe2 h6

[Black preferred to improve his queen's knight straight away with 11...Nac7 in A.Colson-A.Paredes Galan, Paris 2006. This might be a slight improvement as 12.0-0 can now be met by f6, although after 13.exd6 Nxd6 14.Nge4 White emerges with a pleasant pull in any case.]

12.Nf3 Nac7 13.0-0 What an ideal position for the Four Pawns Attack! White's central bridgehead is secure and Black is in some trouble. Indeed, it's no surprise that he has twice failed to get past move 22 from here! 13...-- Rolling Forwards-B: 7...Ne8

[P.Wood-C.Davies, London 2006, continued 13...e6 14.Be3 exd5 15.cxd5 b6 16.Rad1 Qe7 17.Rfe1 Kh7 18.Bf2! (keeping everything under control; Black's position is truly grim) a6 19.a4 Rb8 20.Ne4 Rd8? 21.exd6 Nxd6 22.Neg5+ and 1-0 as the queen was a goner.]

[It might be better to try for counterplay with 13...Qd7 14.Qe4 b5, as Black did in E.Kahn-A. Meszaros, Budapest 1990, although now the simple 15.b3 bxc4 16.bxc4 Rb8 17.Bd2 would have maintained control and some advantage.]

³² Mikhail Golubev: 'The sharp line' **8.h4?!** Mikhail Golubev: '!? ' Mikhail Golubev: '(used in several games by GM Vaisser), which is Palliser's second suggestion, is a separate story' '!? ' 8...c5

[The most natural way to try to dismantle White's centre, but on occasion Black

has preferred 8...dxe5 , which is quite a solid choice: 9.dxe5! (simplistic but best; Vaisser later preferred the more ambitious 9.fxe5?! c5 10.Bf4 cxd4 11.Qxd4 , but I have been unable to make this work despite much effort; both 11...Ndc5 and Qa5 give Black good counterplay) 9...Ndc5 10.Be3 Bf5 (or 10...Bg4 11.Be2 f6 12.Nd4!? fxe5 13.fxe5 Bxe2 14.Qxe2 Bxe5 15.0-0-0 Qe8 16.h5

with promising play for the pawn in E.El Gindy-M.Geenen, Elista Olympiad 1998; note too that White should not fear 10...Qxd1+ 11.Rxd1 , as this leaves him in control and better after either 12 Nd5 or c6 12.b4!) 11.Nd4 Qd7! (Black is up to the challenge of hand-to-hand fighting) 12.Nxf5 Qxf5 13.g4!? Qe6 14.Qf3 Rad8 and now in A.Vaisser-B.Avrukh, Moscow 1992, there was nothing wrong with 15.h5!? : for example, f6 (alternatively, 15...Nd3+ is well met by 16.Bxd3 Rxd3 17.Nd5; and 15...Qb6 16.Qf2 c6 17.Rd1! Rxd1+ 18.Kxd1 Rd8+ 19.Kc1 leaves White's attack the more potent) 16.hxg6 hxg6 and now White might take a chance on the ambitious 17.exf6 (or play it safe with 17.Qh3 Kf7 18.Qf3 when Black is probably best advised to repeat) 17...exf6 18.f5!? .]

9.d5 Best; White must make it as hard as possible for Black to open the centre and obtain counterplay.

[9.e6 fxe6 10.h5 cxd4 (O. Rodriguez Vargas - J. Magem Badals, Linares 1991) 11.Nxd4 Ndc5 12.hxg6 hxg6 13.Be3 e5 14.fxe5 dxe5 15.Nb3 b6 White has insufficient compensation for material deficit.]

9...dxe5 10.h5 exf4 A critical and common choice, but by no means the only one:

[10...e4 11.Nxe4 Nf6 12.Nxf6+ exf6 D. Sorm - V. Baklan, Sitges 2014 13.Be3 White has reasonable chances of emerging with an edge, as he did after Bg4 (13...Re8 14.Qd2 Qe7 would force White into 15.Kf2 , but Bg4 16.Nh2 Bf5 17.a3 still retains control and a pull) 14.hxg6 fxg6 15.Qd2 Re8 16.Kf2!? Bxf3 17.Kxf3 f5 18.Re1 Qf6 19.b3 b6 20.Bd3 in F.Grafl-N.Heck, Frankfurt 2000.]

[a] 10...Qa5!? is a little awkward, especially if Black is happy to meet 11 Qb3 with 11...Qb6. M.Orsag-J.Dolezel, correspondence 1999, saw the more combative 11.Bd2!? (I wonder too about a radical way to escape the pin, namely 11.hxg6 hxg6 12.Kf2!? and now exf4 13.Bxf4 Nf6 14.Qd2 prepares Re1, Kg1 and only then a good, old direct attack with Bh6; this may look crude, but doesn't seem so easy to counter and most certainly deserves consideration) 11...exf4 and now 12.hxg6 hxg6 (12...fxg6 13.Qe2 at least enables White to go long) 13.a3!? might have been tried, retaining some practical compensation and attacking chances after Nf6 14.Bd3 Bg4 15.Ne2 Qb6 16.Qc2 .]

[b] 10...Qc7 11.hxg6 fxg6 (11...hxg6 was preferred in N.Coursaget-D.Bojkov, Agneaux 2005, and now I quite like Knaak's idea of 12.g3!? ; Qc2-h2 is most certainly a threat) 12.Nb5 Qb6 is also something of a problem. I haven't found anything better than 13.d6 (I'm not too enamoured by 13.Ng5 exf4 14.Nxh7 Rf5 for White) , but then 13...exd6 14.Qd5+ Kh8 leaves White with nothing better than 15.Nxd6 Nf6 (the most forcing; Black might also give up an exchange, but 15...Nb4!? 16.Nf7+ Rxf7 17.Qxf7 Nc2+ doesn't wholly convince after 18.Kf2! Nf8! 19.Ng5! h6 20.Rb1 Bf5 21.g4! Bxg4 22.Bg2 , which sees White retaining

the upper hand with some fine, forceful play) 16.Nf7+ Kg8 17.Nh6+ Kh8 18.Nf7+ , repeating moves.]

[d) 10...Nc7?! 11.Qc2! b5 12.hxg6 hxg6 13.g4! (suddenly 14 Qh2 is a rather large threat) Nf6 14.fxe5 Nxg4 15.Bf4 left White actively placed and with dangerous attacking chances for his pawn in S.Kapnisis-F.Sigalas, Kallithea 2002.]

11.Bxf4 Nf6

[Best. In C.Vallepin-O.Piot, Montigny le Bretonneux 2003, Black slightly panicked with 11...e5?! 12.dxe6 Re8 when the opening of the centre only helped White: 13.hxg6 Rxe6+ 14.Be2 hxg6 15.Ng5 Rf6?! (not the best square, but one can understand why Black was keen to avoid 15...Re8 16.Nxf7! Kxf7 17.Qd5+ Re6 18.Ne4 with quite some initiative) 16.Qd2 Nb4 17.0-0-0 and Vallepin was in full control.]

12.hxg6 fxc6 13.Qd2 This unbalanced position has received some testing and appears to be about equal; White has some pressure for his pawn, but Black should not be worse unless he is careless: 13...Ng4

[13...Bf5

A) 14.Bd3 Bxd3 (14...Nh5 15.Bxf5 Rxf5 was preferred in A.Vaisser-E.Petit, French League 1992, and now 16.Bh2!? Qd7 17.0-0 Rf8 18.Rae1 would have retained decent centralization and compensation) 15.Qxd3 e6 (otherwise, the 15...b5!? of E.Kahn-G.Horvath, Budapest 1996, should probably be met by 16.Qe2! Nc7 17.cxb5 Ncxd5 18.0-0-0 with the initiative; and after the 15...Qd7 of M.Vokac-V.Karlik, Pardubice 2002, 16.0-0!? Nb4 17.Qd2 Qf5 18.Be3 would have kept Black's counterplay under control) 16.0-0-0!? Nxd5 17.Qe4 Qf6 (no less critical would have been 17...Rxf4!? 18.Qxe6+ Rf7 when White should probably rely on his d-pawn after 19.cxd5 Qf6 20.Qxf6 Bxf6 21.Ne4) 18.Be5 Nxc3 19.bxc3 Qe7 20.Bd6 Qf6 21.Be5 Qe7 22.Bd6 Qf6 23.Be5 Qe7 24.Bxg7!? (going for the win...) Kxg7? (24...Qxg7 was a better defence, aiming to force perpetual with 25.Ng5 Qxc3+ 26.Kb1 Qb4+) 25.Qe3! Kg8 26.Ng5 h5 27.g4! hxg4? 28.Qe5! Qf6 29.Rh8+! Qxh8 30.Qxe6+ Kg7 31.Rd7+ Kh6 32.Qe3 Rf1+ 33.Kb2 Kh5 34.Ne4 (34.Rd2! would have been even more clinical) 34...Rf5 35.Qg1 Rf3 36.Qh2+ Rh3 37.Qe5+ forced resignation in M.Taleb-I.Svirjov, Alushta 2004. DANGEROUS WEAPON! That was a lovely, sacrificial if thematic attack from Taleb and typical of the wild middlegame play which 8 h4 can easily lead to.;

B) 14.a3 Ng4 15.Bg5 Qd7? White has insufficient compensation for material deficit. R. Vasquez - M. Solleveld, Esbjerg 2005]

[13.--]

[c) 13...e6?! 14.0-0-0 exd5 was too active a defence in C.Paci-Z.Erdelyi, Budapest 2001, and one which just plays into White's hands after 15.cxd5 ; Bc4 will follow, introducing d6+ ideas, and Black must also fear the simple and strong plan of Bh6.]

14.Bd3 Nb4 15.Be4 Bf5? White has insufficient compensation for material deficit. J.

Knudsen - H. Van de Wynkele, corr. 2003 16.0-0 e6

[or 16...Bxc3!? 17.bxc3 Bxe4 18.cxb4 cxb4 19.Ng5 with some counterplay thanks to Black's kingside weaknesses]

17.Bg5 Qd7 18.Rae1 was roughly balanced in J.Knudsen-H.Van der Wynkele, correspondence 2003.

³³ RR **8...dxe5** 9.dxe5

[almost unstudied is 9.fxe5!? c5! , one possible line is then 10.Bf4 cxd4 11.Qxd4 Nb4 , Van Ketel-De Leur, Leiden 2003, 12.0-0-0 Qa5 13.a3 and now, probably, Nc6]

9...f6 10.exf6 exf6!? (Kudiyakov-Golubev, Alushta 2005) 11.0-0 Ndc5 12.Be3 (it still looks equal to me) 12...c6!?

[as I suggested in my notes to a 2005 game, another line is 12...Qxd1]

13.Nd4 (Palliser). Now Black may try 13...f5 , before deciding where to put his major pieces.

³⁴ RR **9.d5** dxe5 10.0-0 Qc7

³⁵ Mikhail Golubev: 'It is known for a long time that after' **9...cxd4** Malakoff/Primel, D: '1-0 Nguyen Chi Minh (2439)-Guilleux,F (2313) Malakoff 09th Op 2009 (9.3)' 10.Nxd4

[RR BEWARE! That legendary pawn-grabber Viktor Korchnoi might have once tried 10.dxe7 '?' Qxe7 11.Nxd4 in a simul, but I can't recommend it in view of the promising riposte Nb6 '!'. 12.0-0 Rd8]

10...Nb6 Mikhail Golubev: 'White declines the pawn sacrifice and develops the initiative by'

[RR 10...Ndc5 11.Ndb5 Bf5 12.0-0 Nb4 13.Be3 b6 14.g4 Bc2 15.Qd2 a6 16.Nc7 Ra7 17.N7d5 Ne4 18.Nxe4 Nxd5 19.Qxd5 Rd7 20.Rac1 7 1-0 Hausner,I (2395)-Kovar,V (2235)/Czechia 2009/Mega2009 Update]

[Preparing to recapture on d6 with the queen, but 10...exd6 may not be so bad. That said with 11.Ndb5! White ought to be able to obtain a plus:

A) or 11...Nb6!? 12.0-0 Be6 13.Nxd6 Qc7 14.f5! Qc5+ (Black may do better with 14...Rad8!? 15.fxe6 Rxd6 16.exf7+ Rxf7 with some play for the pawn, although even in the simplifying line 17.Qe1 Nxc4 18.Bxc4 Qxc4 19.Qe8+ Rf8 20.Rxf8+ Bxf8 21.Bh6 Rf6 22.Rd1 White retains a pull) 15.Kh1 gxf5 16.Nxb7 Qe7 and now in E.El Gindy-D.Poldauf, Cairo 1997, there wasn't too much wrong with the simple 17.Na5 Rac8 18.Nd5;

B) 11...Qh4+ 12.g3 Qh3 13.Nxd6 (critical; 13.Bf1 Re8+ 14.Kf2 Qf5! wasn't at all clear in M.Vokac-C.Spisak, Cappelle la Grande 1995,; but White might consider 13.Be3!? 14 , which introduces the idea of going long after Qd2) 13...Ndc5 (Black may do better to fight for the d5-square with 13...Nf6 when 14.Be3 Rd8 15.Qd2 Ne8 16.c5 b6 doesn't seem too clear, although after 17.Bf3 Nxc5!? 18.Bxc5 bxc5 19.Bxa8 Rxd6 20.Qg2 Re6+ 21.Kd2

I'm not certain that Black has enough for the exchange since White's king should find safety on the c-file) 14.Nd5 Bd7! 15.f5! Ba4 was quite a creative way to obtain counterplay in N.Gerard-R.Amato, French League 1998, although with 16.Qd2! Qg2 17.Ne7+ Kh8 18.Qd5 White would have retained the upper hand.]

[Before returning to 10...Nb6, we should quickly note that 10...e5? 11.Ndb5 exf4 12.Bxf4 leaves Black without any real play for the pawn (V.Marques-B.Roselli Mailhe, Buenos Aires 1997),]

[and that 10...Nf6 11.Ndb5! (again!) Bf5 12.Be3 Nb4 13.Rc1 exd6 14.0-0 Re8 15.Bf2 sufficed for a pleasant edge in I.Hausner-J.Trapl, Teplice 2006.]

11.Ndb5N

[11.0-0 Qxd6 12.Be3 , as in Vokac-A.Kovalev, Ostrava 1993.

A) a) 12...Bd7 13.Qd2 Rad8 14.Rad1 maintains control and an edge; 15 Bf3 will follow.;

B) b) Black might thus try the immediate 12...Rd8? , but unfortunately for him this runs into 13.Ndb5! Qxd1 14.Raxd1 Rxd1 15.Rxd1 Be6 16.b3 with some advantage due to the awkward pressure exerted by White's more active pieces.;

C) c) 12...Qb4!? 13.Qc1 (13.Qb3 is also quite viable,; but the ambitious 13.a3?! Qxb2 14.Ncb5 doesn't seem so clear to me after Nc5!) 13...Rd8 14.a3 Qd6 15.Rd1 maintains control and a pleasant pull.;

D) d) 12...Be6 13.Ncb5 (there's nothing wrong too with the immediate 13.b3!?, which might well transpose after Rfd8 14.Ncb5 Qc5 15.Qe1) 13...Qc5 14.b3 Rfd8 15.Qe1! Bd7 16.Qf2 Qc8 17.Rad1 left White nicely centralized and Poldauf no doubt regretting not repeating 10...exd6 in A.Zude-D.Poldauf, German League 2004.;

E) 12...Qc5 A bold choice, but by no means the only option: 13.Ne4 Qc7 14.Qb3! The best square for the queen and after this White should be able to count on obtaining at least a pull. M.Vokac-A.Kovalev, Ostrava 1993, continued Rd8 15.Rad1 Bd7 and now there was no need to force the pace with

E1) However, once again 16.Nb5 would have done the trick: Qc6 (or 16...Qb8 17.Nec3 with a certain bind) 17.Nxa7! Qxe4 18.Bf3 Qe6 19.Qxb6 nets a clear pawn while retaining White's grip on proceedings.;

E2) 16.c5!? , not least because the position wouldn't have been at all clear had Black found 16...Nxc5! 17.Nxc5 Qxc5 18.Nb5 Qf5 19.Nxa7 Na4 . Rolling Forwards-A11: 9...cxd4]

11...exd6 1h09 12.0-0 transposes to a position we considered in the notes to Black's 10th move in Line A11 12...Be6 01h04 13.Nxd6 Qc7 14.f5!↑ Bxc4 55mns 15.Bf4 Rfd8 16.Rc1 Qe7?? 17.Bxc4 Nxc4 18.Nd5 1-0 (18) Nguyen,C (2439)-Guilleux,F (2313) Malakoff 2009 EXT 2010 [Malakoff/Primel,D]

³⁶ Vigorito, D: 'For' Malakoff/Primel,D: 'RR' **10.0-0!** Vigorito, D: 'see Golubev's notes to Flear, G (2485)-Hebden, M (2510) Southend 2009' 10...Nf6

[10...cxd4 11.Nxd4 (S. Atalik - M. Tratar, Nova Gorica 2003) (better than 11.Nb5?! Ndc5 12.Nbxd4 Qb6! 13.Kh1 Bg4 , which gave Black active and easy development in J.Joyce-M.Turner, Bunratty 1999)

A) 11...Qb6 12.Be3 Re8 (and not 12...Qxb2? 13.Ndb5 , preparing to trap the queen and giving White a powerful initiative after Qb4 14.Nd5 Qa5 15.Bd4!) 13.Nd5! Qxb2 is quite a bold pawn grab. White might repeat here, but I somewhat prefer Golubev's suggestion of 14.Nc2 with the venomous threat of 15 Bc1!. Black might counter that with Bh8 (a machine move if ever there was one, but it's not clear that the more human 14...Nb4 15.Ndxb4 Rxe3 16.Nxe3 Qxb4 gives Black enough for the exchange after 17.Nd5 Qc5+ 18.Kh1) 15.Bc1 Qg7 , but his line-up on the long diagonal fails to wholly convince after 16.f5 .;

B) 11...Re8 12.Kh1 Ndc5 13.f5 Ne4 14.Bf4 Nac5 15.Nd5 Bd7 16.Rc1 Bc6= The chances are roughly equal, though better players should feel more comfortable.]

[Arguably Black's most natural move, but he also has, on top of 10...Re8 , which we examined in Rausis-McShane:]

[c) 10...f5 is quite ambitious with the centre still to be fixed and after the 11.Be3 Nf6 of I.Rausis-J.Degraeve, Montpellier 1999, White might play simply with 12.dxc5!? Nxc5 13.Qd2 followed by Rad1 and Rfe1.]

[d) 10...Nc7 11.f5! Nf6?! 12.fgxg6 f5 13.dxc5 dxc5 14.Bf4 Qxd1 15.Raxd1 gave White a pleasant pull in H.Meza-B.Roselli Mailhe, Mar del Plata 2008; exchanges do not always help to free Black's position in this variation!]

11.d5 transposes to [E77] b) 11...Ne8 85 once again sees Black adopting an ...f5 set-up:

[c) 11...Nh5 is a little misguided in view of 12.Ng5 when the knight should retreat, since h6?! 13.Bxh5 gxh5 (13...h5 14.Bf3 gxf4 15.Bxf4 gives White a pull too; note how the a6-knight can easily appear a little misplaced if Black isn't careful) 14.Nge4 Bg4 15.Qb3! (better than the 15.Qd2 of S.Strating-Y.Visser, Dutch League 2006, in which matters wouldn't have been at all clear had Black found Bd4+! 16.Kh1 f5) 15...Bd4+ 16.Kh1 f5 17.Nf2 Qb6 18.Bd2 doesn't enable Black to equalize.]

12.Bd3 not essential, but 12...f5?!

[12...Nac7 13.Bd2 a6 14.Qe2 b5!]

[12...Bxc3 13.bxc3 f5 14.Bd2 Nf6 15.Be1! Qe7 16.Bh4 Nc7 was the course of A.Lauber-S.Brettschneider, German League 1995, in which White might have begun to probe with 17.Re1 Qg7 18.a4 followed by Qb3.]

13.Bd2 Nf6

[RR 13...Nac7 14.Rb1 Nf6 15.a3 Re8 16.Qc2 Bd7 17.b4 b6 18.h3 Rb8 19.Kh2 Re7 20.Be1 Qf8 21.Bd2 Ree8 22.Ng5 h6 23.Nf3 cxb4 24.axb4 b5 25.cxb5 Nxb5 26.Nxb5 Bxb5 27.Nd4 Ng4+ 28.hxg4 Turov,M (2642)-Wen,Y (2569)/Biel 2012/CBM 149 Extra/1/2-1/2 (36)]

14.Re1N Re8?! Probablement une préparation maison

[RR 14...h6 15.a3 saw White retain control and a small plus in C.Nguyen-M.

Borriss, German League 2004 Bd7 16.Qc2 Re8 17.g3 Rxe1+ 18.Rxe1 Be8 19.Kg2 Bf7 20.h3 Qd7 21.b3 Nc7 22.Nd1 b5 23.Bc3 Re8 24.Rxe8+ Bxe8 25.Ne3 bxc4 26.bxc4 Na8 27.Nd1 Nb6 28.Nf2 Na4 29.Bxf6 Nguyen Chi Minh (2375)-Borriss,M (2445)/Germany 2004/CBM 101/[Mueller,Karsten]/1-0 (60)] 15.Rxe8+! Qxe8 16.Qf1 h6 17.Re1C Qf7 18.Nb5 Ne8 19.Bc3 Nac7 20.Qe2 Kf8 21.Nxc7 32 Nxc7 40 22.Nh4 Bxc3 Risqué 23.bxc3 Bd7 24.Nxg6+! Kg7? 25.Ne5! dxe5 26.Qxe5+ Kg8 27.Qxc7 Re8 28.Rxe8+ Qxe8 29.Qe5 1-0 (28) Nguyen,C (2392)-Geffroy,L (1941) Sautron 2012 EXT 2014 [RR]

³⁷ **10...Nb6** 11.0-0 Bg4

[11...--]

[11...Bxc3 12.bxc3 f5 13.Be3 (in order to counter Black's plan of attacking c3; White may do better here to play 13.Bd2!? and after Qf6 14.Bd3 Bd7 15.a4 I prefer his chances: Qc2 and Be1-h4 will follow) 13...Re8 14.Bf2 Qf6 15.Qc2 Bd7 16.Bd3 Na4! enabled Black to maintain the balance in H.Tikkanen-I. Cheparinov, Oropesa del Mar 2001.]

[11...f5 12.Bd2 Nd7 13.a3 Nf6 14.Bd3 Kh8 15.Qc2 kept control of the key e4-square and after Nc7 White might have prepared to play on the queenside with 16.Rab1!? in M.Cebalo-Z.Kozul, Croatian Championship, Vukovar 2005.]

[11...Bf5 hopes for early counterplay, but after 12.Bd2 (White might also consider investing a tempo with 12.a3!? to provoke Bxc3 13.bxc3) 12...Nb4 13.a3 Nd3 14.g4!? matters are by no means so clear. Admittedly Black can save his knight for the time being with Nxb2 15.Qb3 Bd3 16.Bxd3 Nxd3 17.Qc2 Bd4+ , but then 18.Kg2 Nf2 19.Rxf2 Bxf2 20.Kxf2 Nxc4 21.f5!? (by no means essential; the calmer 21.Ne4 Nxd2 22.Qxd2 f5 23.gxf5 Rxf5 24.Nfg5 also looks like a reasonable approach) 21...Nxd2 22.Qxd2 gives White decent chances to acquire a dangerous initiative with his knight-pair.]

12.h3 Bxf3 13.Rxf3 f5 Cebalo,M-Kozul,Z/ Croatian Cup, Pula CRO 2002 14.Be3 [not fearing the doubled pawns; instead A.Summerscale-K.Sasikiran, British Championship, Scarborough 1999, saw 14.Bd2 Nc7 15.Bd3 Qf6 16.Kh1 Rae8 17.Qc2 Re7 18.Rg1?! Nd7 19.Nd1 Rfe8 and Black had taken control]

14...Nd7 15.Qc2 Nf6

[15...Qf6!? 16.a3 Nc7 à la Sasikiran may be a better piece deployment, but here White is in time to contest the e-file with 17.Bf2 Rae8 18.Re1 with a tough, manoeuvring struggle in prospect]

16.a3! Nc7 17.Bd3 Kh8 18.Bf2 a6 19.Re1 follows an instructive piece of analysis by Cebalo from Informant 95. White has deployed his forces in an ideal manner here and, moreover, is ready to meet 19...b5 with 20.cxb5 axb5 21.Bxb5 Nxb5 22.Nxb5 Ne4 23.a4 , which retains the upper hand.

10...Nc7 11.0-0 b5 12.f5 Vaiser,A-Golubev,M/ Biel Open 1995.

³⁸ **13.Bd3** Bd7 14.Re1 Re8 White's bishops are ineffective. The position is probably about equal but the 'trend' is likely to favour Black, as it's hard to find a

good plan for White. 15.Bd2 Nc7 16.Qb3 Rb8 17.Rxe8+ Qxe8 18.Re1 Qf8 19.a4 b6 Black wants to freeze the queenside for now. 20.Qa2 Qc8 21.Bc2 [White would like to play 21.a5 but Qa6 is just in time to pin and win the a5-pawn.] 21...Qa6 From here the queen pressures the a4- and c4-pawn. 22.h3 Re8 23.Rxe8+ Ncxe8 Still about equal according to the engines but Van Wely wins rather easily it seems. 24.Bb3 Ne4 25.Be1 N8f6 26.Qc2 Qa5 27.Kh1 Kf7 28.Ng1 Ke7 29.Ne2 Kd8 30.Nc1 Kc7 The king walks to the queenside so that Black can consider a kingside break. 31.Nd3 h6 32.Kg1 Qa6 33.Nf2?! White is understandably impatient but this trades off a 'superfluous' black knight. 33...Nxf2 34.Bxf2 Qc8 beginning a geometric adventure. 35.Qa2 Nh5 36.g3 Qh8! 37.Qa1 Nf6 [37...a5!? freezes the queenside but Black may have wanted to retain the possibility of a ...b5 break.] 38.a5 Qb8 39.Ba4 White seeks counterplay but he will end up with a bad B vs good N. 39...bxa5 40.Bxd7 Kxd7 41.Qxa5 Ne4 42.g4? [White cracks. 42.Be1 with chances to defend.] 42...Qb1+ 43.Kg2 Qb2+ There is no perpetual check for White. 44.Qxa7+ Ke8 45.Qa8+ Kf7 46.Qa7+ Kf6 47.g5+ hxc5 48.fxc5+ Ke5! 0-1 (48) Johansen,D (2430)-Van Wely,L (2684) Canberra AUS 2013 [Vigorito, D] [not 48...Kxc5?? 49.Qe7+ Kf4 50.Qh4+ is a draw] [after 48...Ke5 49.Qg7+ (49.Qe7+ Kf4) 49...Kf4-+ Black mates]

- ³⁹ Marjanovic,Slavoljub: 'while' Mikhail Golubev: 'The alternative is' Mikhail Golubev: 'the alternative is' **7...Bg4** Sandu, Mihaela: 'A less risky alternative' Sandu, Mihaela: 'Is also playable' 8.Be3 [8.0-0 Nd7 Marjanovic,Slavoljub: 'is deserving attention.' 9.Be2 c5 10.d5 Nc7 (J. Parker - A. Mestel, West Bromwich 2005) 11.Be3 Rb8 12.Qd2 a6 13.a4± White has a slight spatial advantage.] [8.h3 Bxf3 9.Qxf3 Nd7 10.Be3 **A)** 10...Nb4 11.Rd1 Nxd3+ (11...c5 12.dxc5 (Nguyen Ngoc Truong Son - G. Guseinov, Khanty-Mansiysk (rapid) 2013) Nxc5 13.Bb1 Qa5 14.0-0 Bxc3 15.bxc3 Nc6 16.e5!± White has the initiative.) 12.Rxd3 a6 13.Rd1 b5 14.c5! b4 15.Ne2 Qb8 16.0-0± White has a slight spatial advantage.; **B)** 10...c5 11.d5 Nb4 12.Bb1 (R. Chytilek - V. Babula, Czechia 1999) Qa5 13.0-0 Nb6 14.Qe2 Qa6 15.a3 Nxc4 16.Bf2= The position is objectively equal, although a touch more comfortable for White.] 8...Nd7 9.0-0 e5 10.fxe5 c5 Sandu, Mihaela: '!' 11.d5 Nxe5 Parker,J-Gallagher,J/ 4NCL, Birmingham ENG 2001. Sandu, Mihaela: 'And Black managed to equalise in Parker-Gallagher - see the archives' **7...c5** was played by Anand.

[9.fxe5?! Nc5! (9...Ng4 10.Bg5 Qe8=) 10.Bc2 (10.exf6 Nxd3+ 11.Ke2 Nxc1+ 12.Rxc1 Qxf6 $\neq$) 10...Qxd1+ 11.Kxd1 (11.Nxd1 Ng4 Pein,Malcolm: '=' 12.Bf4 Re8 $\neq$ Alex 2.14a - OliThink 5.3.2, Internet 2013) 11...Ng4 12.Ke2 Nxe5 $\neq$ Sokolin]

9...Nc5

[9...Re8 10.Be3 Ng4 11.Nxg4 Bxg4 12.Qd2 Qf6 13.h3 Be6 14.e5 Qe7 $\neq$ Δ f6, Lopez,N-Dworakowska,J/WchJW U16 Bratislava (01) 1993]

[9...Ng4 10.Nxg4 Bxg4 11.Be2 Bxc3+ 12.bxc3 Qxd1+ 13.Bxd1 Bxd1 14.Kxd1 Rad8+ 15.Kc2 Rfe8 $\neq$ Sokolin]

10.Be3

[10.Bc2 Qxd1+ 11.Kxd1 Ng4 12.Nxg4 Bxg4+ 13.Ke1 Bxc3+ 14.bxc3 Nxe4 15.Bxe4 Rfe8 $\neq$ Sokolin]

10...Nxd3+ 11.Qxd3 Qxd3 12.Nxd3 Re8 13.Ne5

[13.e5 Ng4 14.Bg1 Bf5 15.Nc5 b6 16.Na6 Bxe5 17.fxe5 Rxe5+ 18.Kd2 Rd8+ 19.Nd5 c6 ∞]

13...Ng4 $\frac{1}{2}$ - $\frac{1}{2}$ Ivanov,Se-Sokolin,L/Leningrad 1991 14.Nxg4 Bxc3+ 15.bxc3 Bxg4 16.e5 f6= Sokolin

⁴¹ **9.Nxe5** Qxd4

⁴² For **9...Ne8** see Swapnil, S - Kovalev, V Kolkata 2015, Marjanovic,Slavoljub: '!?' 10.0-0 Trajko Nedev: 'worse move is' 10...c5!/? Dembo,Yelena: 'see Palliser, R (2414)-McShane, L (2596)/ Staverton Park 2009.'

[10...c6 , transposing to Limontas-Mc Shane, Warsaw rpd 2006, has the idea of 11.Bg5 Qb6+ 12.Kh1 Qxb2 , without the exchange on d5 Black can go for it. But 11.Bg5 is not a necessary move from the alternative viewpoint.]

11.Bg5!/?

[11.dxc6?! worked well for Black in Palliser,R-McShane,L/Staverton Park ENG 2009. Sandu, Mihaela: 'After exchanging the powerful passed pawn' bxc6 12.Be3 Nec7 13.a3 Ne6 it's only Black who controls the centre now 14.b4 Nd4

Check the archives for the complete game Palliser, R (2414)-McShane, L (2596), 2009 Mikhail Golubev: '=' Mikhail Golubev: 'Now Black is planning ...Na6-c7-e6.'

15.Ne2 Mikhail Golubev: 'N' (No stronger is 15.c5 Nc7 16.Ne2

as in Y.Zimmerman - Karner, Oberwart 2001) 15...Nxf3+ 16.Rxf3 Nc7 17.h3 (17.Qd2!/?) 17...Ne6 18.Ra2?! Mikhail Golubev: '?' Mikhail Golubev: 'Basically, a blunder.' (18.Qc2) 18...f5! 19.Bc2 (Mikhail Golubev: 'Or' 19.exf5 e4! 20.fxe6 exf3) 19...Qxd1+ 20.Bxd1 f4! 0-1 (20) Palliser,R (2414)-McShane,L (2596) England 2009 EXT 2023 [Pein,Malcolm] Mikhail Golubev: 'Black's next move would have been ...Ng5!.' (20...f4 21.Bd2 Ng5 wins the e4 pawn and Black has a big advantage.)]

[Mikhail Golubev: 'An important decision. White can fight for the advantage without this exchange, for example:' 11.a3 Mikhail Golubev: '!?' Bd7 (11...Nd6 12.Nb5 Nxb5?! 13.cxb5 Nc7 14.Nd2!/? Inkiov-Belkhodja, Evry 2005) 12.Qe1 Qe7

13.Bg5 f6 14.Be3± White has a moderate spatial advantage. A. Shabalov - L. McShane, Toronto 2010]

11...f6 12.Bh4 Nd6 13.a3 Swapnil,S-Kovalev,V/Kolkata IND 2015. 13...Qe7 14.Rb1 Bd7 15.Kh1 White doesn't hurry with the b4 break. He first improves the position of his pieces.

[15.b4 Rfc8 16.Qe2 Ne8 17.Nb5 Bf8 Black is putting some pressure on b4, the only square he can attack at the moment. 18.Be1 Qg7 19.Kh1 Be7 20.Bd2 Bd8 21.Ne1 Bb6 an interesting regrouping by Kozul 22.Nc2 cxb4 23.axb4 Bxb5 24.cxb5 Nac7 (24...Nb8!?) 25.Na1 Nd6 26.Nb3 Nce8 27.Rbc1 Rxc1 28.Rxc1 Rc8 29.Nc5 Qe7 30.Qg4 Rc7 31.Be3 Ng7 32.Rf1 Qd8 33.h3 Qe7 34.Qh4 Nge8 35.Kh2 1/2-1/2 Cebalo, M (2453)-Kozul, Z (2612)/Bled 19990 (35.g4↑ Was the way to go but probably Cebalo didn't feel like taking chances at this point.)]

15...b6 16.Qe2 Rac8 17.Bc2 Qe8 18.Nd2 A shrewd prophylactic move against . . . f5, also defending c4 18...f5? Black is not well set for this typical counterplay 19.exf5 gxf5 20.g4! The knight on d6 might be well placed but its king misses his defender. 20...e4

[After giving up the control of e4 20...fxg4? 21.Rxf8+ Qxf8 22.Rf1 Qe8 23.Nde4+- Black's position collapses]

21.Bg3! Be5 22.Bxe5 Qxe5 23.gxf5 e3 24.Nf3 Qe7 25.Ng5 Nxf5 26.Ne6! Bxe6 27.dxe6 Nd4

[27...Qxe6? 28.Rxf5 Rxf5 29.Qg4+-]

28.Qxe3

[28.Qh5 Should have won on the spot Nxe6 29.Nd5 Qb7 30.Qe5+-]

28...Qxe6 29.Qxe6+ Not the strongest, but a human approach. The endgame is much better for White and easier to play.

[The computer line goes 29.Qg5+ Kh8 30.Bxh7! Kxh7 31.Rfe1 Qc6+ 32.Nd5 Nf5 33.Re7+! Nxe7? 34.Qxe7+ Kh8 35.Qh4+ Kg8 36.Rg1+-]

29...Nxe6 30.Nd5 Rxf1+ 31.Rxf1 Rf8 32.Rxf8+ Nxf8 33.Ne7+ Kg7 34.Nc8 Nb8

35.Nxa7 And White managed to convert his extra pawn in the endgame 35...Nbd7

36.Kg2 Kf6 37.Kf2 Ne5 38.b3 Ng4+ 39.Kg3 Ne3 40.Bd3 Ke5 41.Kf3 Kd4

42.Ke2 Ng2 43.Kd2 Ke5 44.Nc8 Nh4 45.Ke3 Ng2+ 46.Kd2 Nh4 47.h3 Nd7

48.Bxh7 Nf3+ 49.Kc3 Ng5 50.Bg6 Nxb3 51.Be8 Nf6 52.Bc6 Nf4 53.Nxb6 Ne2+

54.Kb2 Kd6 55.Bg2 Nf4 56.Bf3 Nd3+ 57.Kc3 Ne5 58.Bg2 Nh5 59.Nd5 Ng3

60.Nf4 Ng4 61.Bf3 Ne5 62.Bg2 Ng4 63.b4 cxb4+ 64.axb4 Ne5 65.c5+ Kc7

66.b5 Nf5 67.Be4 Ng7 68.Kd4 Nd7 69.Bg6 Kb8 70.Kd5 Kc7 71.b6+ Kb8

72.Kd6 Nf8 73.Be4 Ne8+ 74.Ke7 Nd7 75.Nd3 Nef6 76.Bg2 Ng4 77.Kxd7 Ne5+

78.Kd8 Nc6+ 79.Ke8 1-0 (79) Swapnil,S (2450)-Kovalev,V (2531) Kolkata IND 2015

[Sandu, Mihaela]

whilst Marjanovic,Slavoljub: 'A better move is' **9...Nc5** can be found in

Bromberger, S - Nyzhnyk, I Bahia Feliz 2011, see the archives for all three.

10.Bg5

[Dembo,Yelena: 'A more natural continuation is' 10.Bc2 a5 Mekhitarian,Krikor

Sevag: '∞' Mekhitarian, Krikor Sevag: 'with balanced chances.' 11.0-0
 Dembo, Yelena: 'when the rarely played' (11.Be3 Qe7) 11...Qd6 Dembo, Yelena:
 '!?' Dembo, Yelena: 'looks satisfactory for Black.' RR: 'Une vieille idée du match de
 New-York 1924' (11...Ne8 Trajko Nedev: '±' Trajko Nedev: '- 9... Nc5 10. Bc2 a5
 11. O-O Ne8' Marjanovic, Slavoljub: 'was played by the very young Magnus
 Carlsen' 12.Be3 b6 13.Qd2 Nd6 14.b3 f5 15.exf5 gxf5 16.Rae1 e4 17.Nd4
 Bd7 18.Bh6± Black has difficulties reaching full equality. V. Babula - I. Smirin,
 Rijeka 2010)

A) 12.Qe2± and White stands slightly better.;

B) 12.Kh1 Bd7 13.Bg5 h6 14.Be3 (14.Bh4) 14...b6 15.Nd2

B1) 15...Ng4 16.Bg1 Rae8 (16...f5 17.h3);

B2) 15...Qe7 Autant jouer directement ♖e7 au lieu de ♖d6 qui n'était pas
 très heureux 16.a3 Ng4 17.Bg1 h5 (17...Rad8) 18.h3 Nf6 19.Rb1 Nh7
 20.b4 axb4 21.axb4 Na6 22.Nf3 (22.c5!? bxc5 23.b5 Nb4 24.Nb3±)
 22...g5 23.d6! Qe6 24.Nd5→ g4 (24...Qxd6 25.Nxb6 Qxd1 26.Rfxd1
 cxb6 27.Rxd7↑) 25.dxc7 gxf3 26.Rxf3 b5 27.Nb6+- Bc6 28.cxb5 Ng5
 29.Bb3 Qg6 30.bxc6 Nxf3 31.Qxf3 1-0 (31) Moranda, W (2572)-Gdanski, J
 (2542) Katowice 2010 EXT 2016 [RR];

C) 12.Qe1 Bd7 13.Qh4 Rae8 14.Kh1 RR: '½-½ Alekhine, A-Lasker, E New
 York 1924 (16)' b6 15.Bg5 Nh5 16.Be3 Nb7 17.a3± White has a lasting
 advantage. Key game V. Lebedev - I. Cavajda, corr. 2012]

10...Qd6!? Bromberger, S-Nyzhnyk, I/Bahia Feliz ESP 2011

[Dembo, Yelena: 'Vigorito, D: 'Black is in no hurry to grab the d3-bishop, but the
 immediate" 10...h6 Dembo, Yelena: 'Vigorito, D: 'has been seen before."]

A) 11.Bh4

A1) 11...g5 12.Bf2 Qe7 13.Bc2 Ng4 (B. Jobava - R. Mamedov, Tbilisi
 2012) 14.0-0 (14.Bg1 f5 15.Nd2 fxe4 16.Ndxe4 Nxe4 17.Bxe4 Nf6
 18.Bg6 e4 19.Qc2 Ng4 20.0-0-0 e3 21.Re1 Qc5 22.Ne4 Qb6 23.Bh7+
 Kh8 24.h4 gxh4 25.Rxh4 Bd7 26.Rh3 Qb4 27.Nc3 Ba4 28.Qd3 Nf2
 29.Qxe3 Rae8 30.Qd2 Nxh3 31.gxh3 Kxh7 32.Bd4 Qxc4 0-1 (32) Jobava,
 B (2721)-Mamedov, R (2628) Tbilisi 2012) 14...f5 15.Nd2 f4 16.b4 Na6
 17.a3 h5= with mutual play.;

A2) 11...c6 (H. Leitmann - R. Post, Bochum 2000) 12.Bc2 Qb6 13.Rb1
 cxd5 14.Bxf6 Qxf6 15.Nxd5 Qa6= The chances are roughly equal, though
 better players should feel more comfortable.;

B) 11.Be3 (G. Cadena Montoya - M. Jaramillo Ochoa, Santa Rosa 2011)
 11...Qe7 12.a3 Nxd3+ 13.Qxd3 a5 14.h3 b6 15.0-0 Ne8]

11.Bc2 a5 Vigorito, D: 'Now it is necessary to safeguard the knight from b2-b4.'

12.0-0 h6 13.Bd2 Vigorito, D: 'This square looks slightly strange. The alternatives'
 [13.Bh4]

[and even 13.Be3 looks more natural.]

13...c6 14.Kh1

[14.a3 cxd5 (14...a4!?) 15.cxd5 Bd7=]

14...Bd7

[14...cxd5 15.exd5 (15.cxd5 b6[∞]) 15...e4 (15...Bd7!?) 16.Nd4 Ng4 17.Bf4 Be5=]

15.Qe1

[15.Qe2 cxd5 16.cxd5 b5!↑]

[White hopes to create some pressure on the kingside, but this does not work out very well. Already it was time to consider changing the nature of the position with 15.dxc6!?]

15...cxd5 16.cxd5 b5↑ Vigorito, D: 'Black has excellent play.' 17.Qh4 h5?!

[Vigorito, D: 'Black could play' 17...b4!? Vigorito, D: '!' Vigorito, D: 'immediately, because' 18.Nd1 (18.Bxh6 bxc3 19.Ng5 cxb2 20.Rab1 Nh5! does not work.) 18...Bb5 19.Re1 Bd3[⦶]]

18.b4?! Vigorito, D: '!?' Vigorito, D: 'An interesting try to mix things up, but it was not necessary to offer a pawn.'

[18.Rac1 b4 19.Nd1 Bb5 20.Re1[∞]]

[18.b3!? b4 19.Na4 looks pretty solid.]

18...axb4[⦶] 19.Ne2 Na6?!

[19...Nfxe4! 20.Bxe4 Ra4↑]

[Also worth considering was 19...Rfc8 with the idea 20.Bxb4 Ng4! then ...Ne3 and ...Bf3 are in the air.]

20.Bg5 Vigorito, D: '?!'

[The pressure on f6 is illusory. A better try was 20.Ng5!? when the position is not clear.]

20...Rfe8 21.Nxe5? Vigorito, D: 'This simply does not work.'

[21.Rac1 Nc5↑]

21...Qxe5 22.Bxf6 Bxf6 23.Qxf6 Qxf6 24.Rxf6 Nc5[⦶] Vigorito, D: 'Black not only attacks the e4-pawn, but .. .b3 is threatened.' 25.Raf1?

[25.Nd4 Nxe4 26.Rf4 f5[⦶]]

[25.Ng3 h4 does not help]

[The humble 25.Rff1 was best but Black is a pawn up with a better position after Nxe4]

25...Rxa2 26.Nd4 Rxc2?!

[Vigorito, D: 'This is good enough, but there was no reason to avoid' 26...Nxe4!

Vigorito, D: 'because' 27.Rxf7 Nd2-+ Vigorito, D: '!' Vigorito, D: 'leaves White unable to deal with the threats to his rooks because of the weak back rank.']

27.Nxc2 b3[⦶] 28.Na3? Vigorito, D: '?!'

[28.Nd4 Rxe4 29.Nxb3 Nxb3 30.Rxf7 Vigorito, D: 'was a better practical try.' Nc5[⦶]]

28...Nxe4

[28...b4!?]

29.Rxf7 b4 30.Rxd7

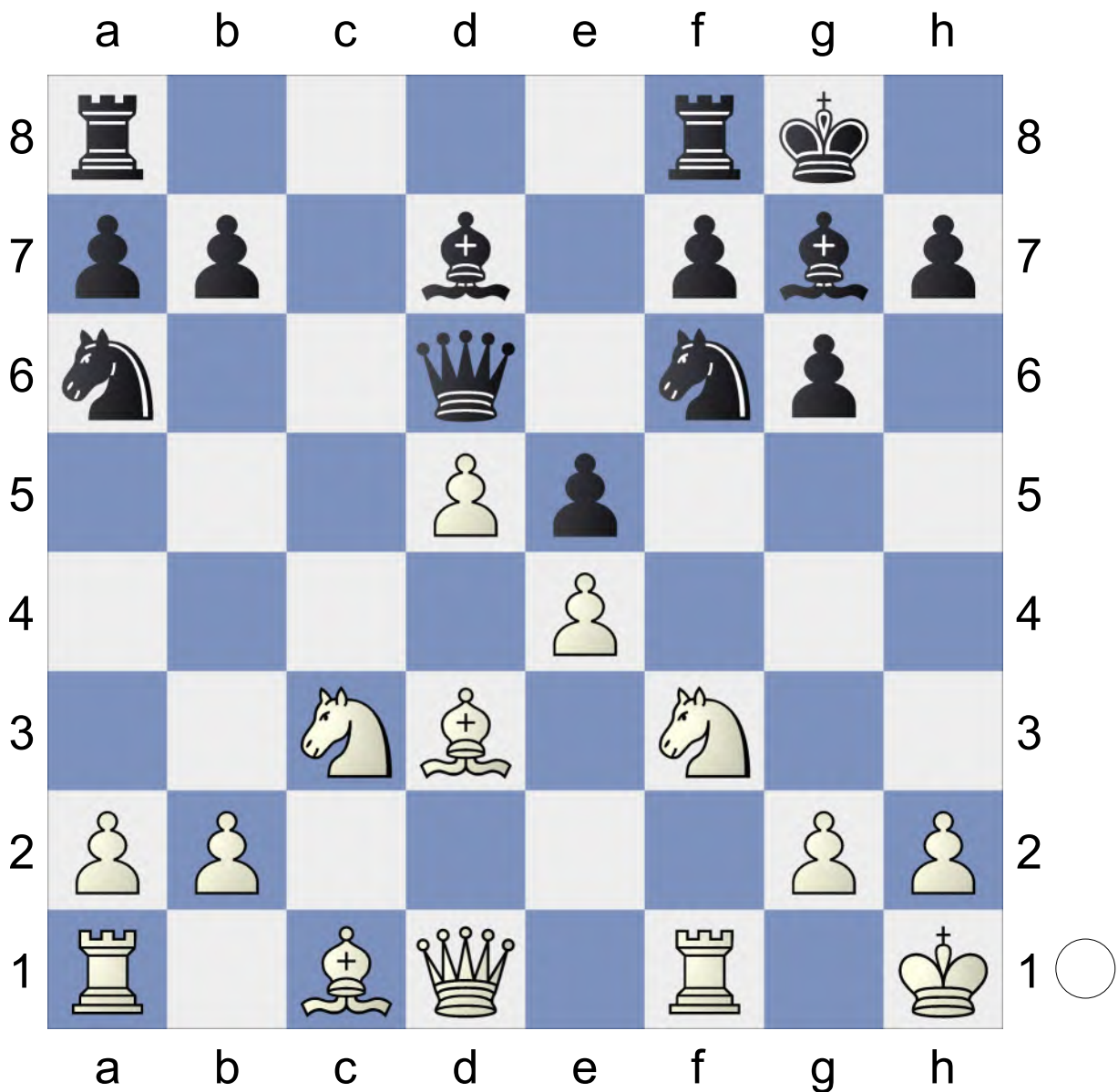
[30.Nb1 Bb5-+ 31.R1f4 Nf6! wins heavy material.]

30...bxa3 31.d6

[31.Rff7 Nf6-+]

31...b2 32.Rb7 Nxd6 0-1 (32) Bromberger,S (2505)-Nyzhnyk,I (2583) Bahia Feliz 112/302 2011 C11-130 [Dembo,Yelena]

US GM Varuzhan Akobian has faced a couple of other tries: Firstly **9...Qd6** (which is similar to 9...Qe7, but the queen can be hit with N-c4) 10.0-0 c6 11.Kh1 cxd5 12.cxd5 Bd7 Arsovic,Goran: 'Diagram

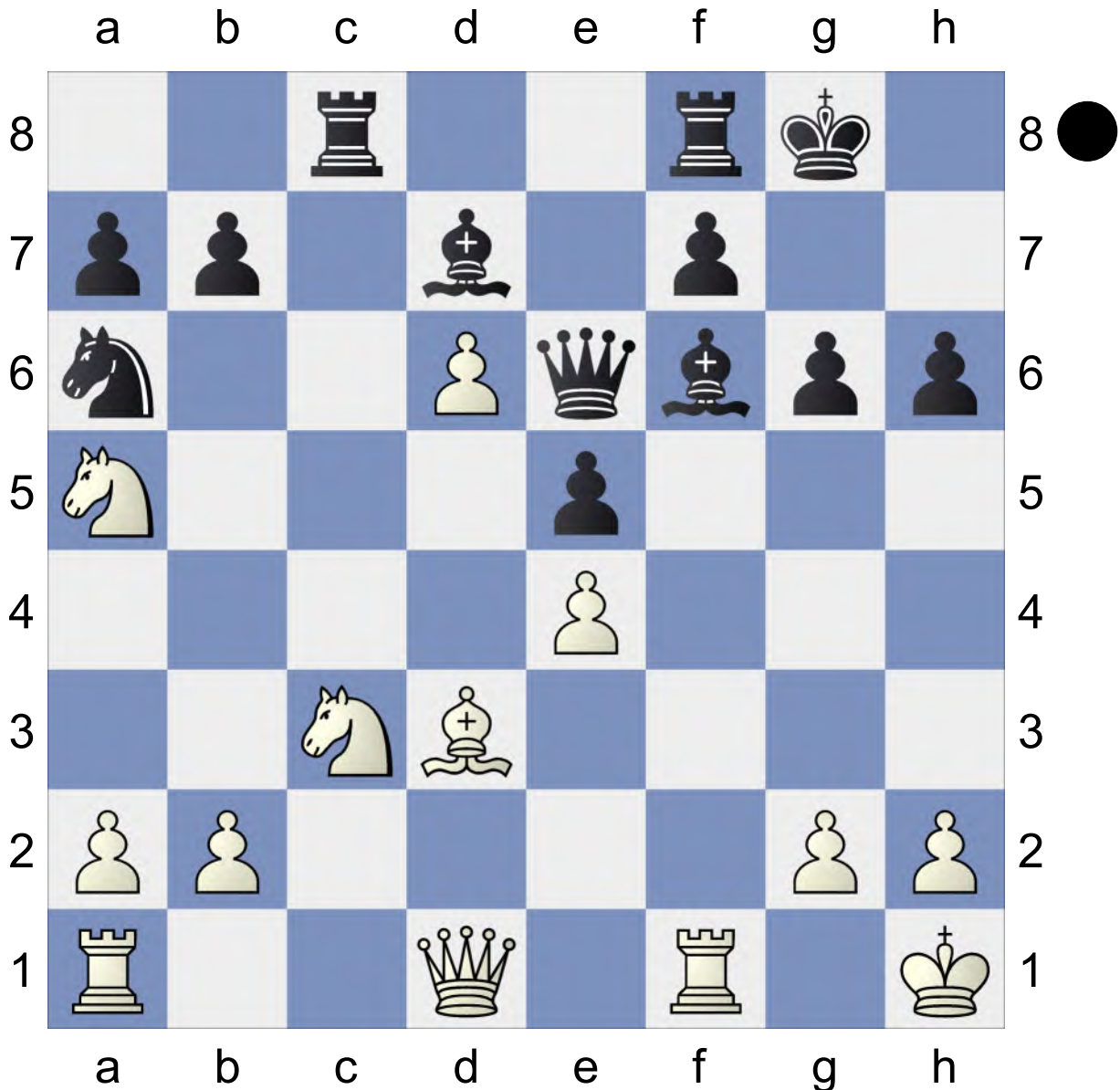


' 13.Be3

[13.Nd2N Rac8 14.Nc4 Qe7 15.Bg5 h6 16.d6 Qe6 17.Bxf6 Bxf6 18.Na5 Diagram

(Diagram)

Bg5!



A) 19.Bxa6 bxa6 20.Qd3 Kg7 21.Qxa6 Be3 22.Nd5 Bd4 23.Nb3 (23.Rf6 Qg4 24.Qd3 a6 ∞) 23...Rc6 24.Qd3 Bb6 25.Rf6 Qe8 ∞ ;

B) 19.Nxb7 Nc5 20.Nxc5 Rxc5 21.Bc2 Rc6 22.Bb3 Qxd6 23.Ba4 Qxd1 24.Raxd1 Rxc3! 25.Rxd7 Rc4 26.Rxa7 Rxe4 27.Bb3 Re2 28.Raxf7 Rxf7 29.Bxf7+ (29.Rxf7 Kh8 30.g3 Rxb2=) 29...Kg7 30.b4 e4 31.Bc4 Rb2= 32.Rf7+ Kh8 33.Rf8+ Kg7 34.Rf7+ Kh8 35.Rf8+ Kg7 36.Rf7+ Kh8 37.Rf8+ ½-½ (37) Riazantsev,A (2628)-Iljiushenok,I (2539) Russia 2020 Chess Informant 147 [Arsovic,Goran]]

13...Rfc8

[13...Ng4 14.Bg1±]

14.Rc1

[14.Nd2!± is more challenging Arsovic,Goran: '±']

14...Nc5 15.Bb1 a5 16.a4 Ng4 17.Bd2 Qb6 18.Bc2 f5∞ Akobian, V - Becerra

Rivero, J Lawrence 2014.

The second of Akobian's games continued as follows: **9...c5** Trajko Nedev: '?!' Mekhitarian, Krikor Sevag: '?!' Mekhitarian, Krikor Sevag: 'is also possible, trying to come up with ♖e8-♗d6. Meanwhile, White will probably try a3-b4. Once again, I feel both sides have decent prospects' 10.Bg5! h6 11.Bh4 g5

Positionally a little shaky, but Black needs to free himself from the pin.

[instead 11...Nc7 12.0-0 Qe7 13.a3 Nce8 14.Rb1 doesn't look comfortable for Black, as b2-b4 is coming]

[11...Qe8 12.Bc2 Nh5 13.Ba4 Bd7 14.Bxd7 Qxd7 15.0-0± E. Vorobiov - A. Shimanov, Moscow (rapid) 2013]

12.Bf2 Ng4 13.0-0 Nxf2 14.Rxf2± (the bishop pair is not effective here, so White's space grip gives him an edge) 14...Nc7 15.Nd2 Ne8 16.Kh1 Nd6 17.Nb5 Ne8 18.Nf1 a6 19.Nc3 Nd6 20.Qh5 b5 21.Ne3 Akobian, V - Wan Yunguo, Las Vegas 2014, with the easier game for White. Although 9...c5 is perhaps OK, it doesn't combine well with an early ...g5.

After **9...Nh5** Black had big problems in Williams-Hebden, Jack Spiegel Mem 2009 (see the April 09 update). 10.0-0 Qe7 11.Be3 f5?! 12.exf5!N

[instead, only 12.a3 was played against Hebden in the past]

12...e4

[not nice for Black is also 12...gxf5 13.Ng5 Nf4 14.Bxf4 exf4 15.Nh3!]

13.d6! with a huge White advantage

⁴³ **10...Nc5** - 108/(292) Mekhitarian, Krikor Sevag: 'was still in order' 11.Bc2 cxd5 12.cxd5 Qd6

[12...Bg4 (L. Pantsulaia - E. Inarkiev, Rijeka 2010) 13.Bg5! Qb6 14.Be3 Qxb2 15.Bxc5 Qxc3 16.Bxf8 Rxf8 17.Kh1± Black has insufficient compensation for material deficit.]

[12...Ne8 Mekhitarian, Krikor Sevag: '?!' Mekhitarian, Krikor Sevag: 'with the idea of ♗d6-f5 at some point. And if White goes for b4, then ...♗a6. In both cases, I feel White maintains a solid space advantage, and good prospects on the ♔-side.'

13.Be3

A) 13...Na6 Back and forth, I don't believe it's a good idea to waste so much time with Black. Still, I chose this game because it shows the typical attack for both sides. 14.a3 Nd6 15.Bd3 b6 16.b4 f5 17.Rc1 Nc7 18.Bg5 Qd7 19.Qd2 f4 20.Bh4 h6 21.Bf2 g5 22.a4 Qe7 23.a5 Rb8 24.axb6 axb6 25.Na4 b5 26.Nc5 The knight looks strong here but I don't see the connection with the other pieces (More promising seems 26.Nb6 Bb7 27.Bc5 g4 28.Nh4±) 26...g4 27.Nh4 Qg5 28.Kh1 Rf7 29.Ra1 Qh5 White's pieces look a little misplaced but he still has a good position. 30.g3 Bf6 31.Qb2? (31.Ng2 Bg5 32.Qc2 Nce8∞) 31...Bxh4?! (♖31...Nxd5 32.exd5 e4 33.Bd4? Bxh4-+) 32.gxh4 g3? 33.hxg3 Qf3+ 34.Kh2 Rg7 35.Rg1 Qg4 36.Bf1 (36.Ne6 Nxe6 37.gxf4 Qxf4+ 38.Bg3 Rxcg3 39.Rxcg3+ Ng7 40.Rf1 Qxh4+ 41.Kg2∞) 36...fxg3+?? (36...Nc4□±) 37.Bxcg3 Nc4 38.Qg2 Ne3 39.Be2 Qg6 40.Qf3

Ng4+ 41.Kh1 Rf7 42.Qc3 h5 43.Rg2 Rb6 44.Rag1 Rbf6 45.Bxe5 Rf2 46.Bg3 Rxc2 47.Rxc2 Ne8 48.e5 Bf5 49.e6 Ra7 50.Nd7? (50.Bh2+-) 50...Be4 51.Bf3 Ra1+ 52.Rg1 Bxf3+ 53.Qxf3 Rxc1+ 54.Kxc1 Qb1+ 55.Qf1 Qxb4 56.Qf7+ Kh8 57.Qf8+?? Qxf8 58.Nxf8 b4 59.d6 b3 60.d7 b2 61.dxe8Q b1Q+ 62.Kg2 Qc2+ 63.Kf3 Qd3+ 64.Kf4 Qe3+ 65.Kf5 Qe5+ 66.Kg6 Qg7+ 67.Kxh5 Nf6# 0-1 Fridman, D (2650)-Vovk, Y (2546)/ICC INT 2009;

B) 13...b6 14.b4 Na6 (14...Nb7 15.Ba4! aiming to occupy the strong c6 post Nbd6 16.Bc6 Rb8 17.Qe2 1-0 (45) Rodriguez Vargas, O (2440) -Villavicencio Martinez, A (2360)/ Cala Galdana 1994.) 15.a3 Nd6 (J. Matisson - B. Pohlig, corr. 2002) 16.Ba4 Bd7 17.Bc6 Rc8 18.Qa4 Nb8 19.b5 a6 20.Qb4±]

[12...b6 Seems to weaken the c6 square Mekhitarian,Krikor Sevag: '!?' Mekhitarian,Krikor Sevag: 'trying to play ♔a6, and also preparing ...♜b7-♜d6' 13.b4 Nb7 14.Bg5 Qd6 After this move the b7 knight is badly placed 15.a3 Bd7 16.Bd3 Rfc8 17.Rc1 a5 18.Qb3 Black's pieces seem awkwardly placed, with little chance to organise some counterplay. axb4 19.axb4 Nh5?! Releasing the pressure on e4 (♭19...Qb8 20.Nb5? Rxc1 21.Rxc1 Bxb5 22.Bxb5 Nxe4̄) 20.Nb5 Qf8 21.Nc7 Rab8

A) ♭22.Ne6 Houdini fxe6 (22...Qd6 23.Nxc7 Kxc7 24.Be3) 23.dxe6+-;

B) 22.Ba6 Nf4 23.Bxf4! Now the white central pawns are unstoppable. exf4 24.e5 Bg4 25.d6 Rd8 26.Ng5 Rd7 27.Rxf4 Nxd6 28.exd6 Qxd6 29.Rxf7 Rxf7 30.Qxf7+ Kh8 31.Bc4 Qf6 32.Ne8 1-0 Williams, S (2527) -Hebden, M (2468)/ Torquay 2009]

13.Kh1 (Stockfish 1.6 - Rybka 4.0, Internet (blitz) 2010) 13...Bd7 14.a4 Rac8 15.Bg5 h6 16.Be3± White has a passed pawn.

10...Bg4?! 11.Be3 Nh5 12.c5 Now I started to have good feelings about my chances. I will be able to play ♔c4, and since there is a lot of central action, his f5-break will hardly come through. ...♜f4 as well is not something to worry about. Now if I ever play h3 and grab his light-squared ♔ under good conditions, after ♖ad1, White will maintain a big advantage. 12...Nc7 13.Bc4 cxd5 14.Nxd5?!

[14.exd5! is actually very strong. I thought about it for a while, but 14.♜xd5 seemed very convincing, positionally speaking, so I wasn't looking for more. This move, in the other hand, poses some real problems for Black.

A) 14...b5 15.Bb3 Nf6 16.d6 e4 17.dxc7 Qxc7 18.Nxb5 Qa5 19.Nd6 frankly speaking, I wouldn't be too sure this position is any better than the one I played. Looks somewhat shaky exf3 20.Rf2! computer precision! Now h3 is threatened, and white wants to take on f3 with a piece fxg2 (20...Rad8 21.h3+-) 21.Qd4+-;

B) 14...e4? 15.Nxe4 Re8 is just losing 16.Bg5+- among other moves.]

14...Ne6

[14...Nxd5! 15.Bxd5 Qe7 16.Qb3 Rab8 17.h3 Bd7 18.Rad1 Nf6± I believe White maintains some advantage, but it's not simple, since Black could even take on d5, because the d-♜ by itself is not such a big deal (after d6, Black has strong

play on the light-squares with ♖e6-♙c6).]

15.h3 Bxf3 16.Qxf3 ♖ad1 is kind of an annoying threat, followed by the calm b4, and Black is in deep trouble. That's why he tries something active. 16...Nh4

17.Rad1! Ng5 18.Qg4 h5 Here I got very excited about the exchange sacrifice. But apparently, it was very strong to let go the e4-♙ and ask him some questions.

19.Nxf4?!

[19.Qg3! Nxe4 20.Qe1 I also thought about it for a while, but the endgame seemed like a convincing advantage to me. In the other hand, something I didn't notice is that Black has to be careful here not to lose right away. Qe8□ 21.Nc7 Qc6 22.Nxa8 Rxa8 (22...Nxb2 23.Qe2! Nxe3 24.Qxe3 Bh6 25.Qd3!+- the problems on f7 will be enough headache for black) 23.g3 Nd6! 24.Bxf7+ Nxf7 25.gxf4 exf4 26.Bxf4 Qxc5+ 27.Qe3± looks good, but Black is still on the game.]

19...h4 20.Rxd8 Rfxd8 21.Nxg6 Nxe4 Getting to this position I felt things were far more complicated than I thought. For sure there's compensation, but I can't find perfect coordination for my pieces. And I have some problems on the back rank (otherwise 22.♖xf7 ♕h7 23.♜xe5 would be just winning). 22.Bxf7+

[22.Ne7+!? Kh8 23.h4 was playable as well, and very promising Nf6!∞]

22...Kh7 23.Ne7 Ng3! 24.Bg6+! Before Black is able to play ♙f8, so then he could answer ♙g6+ with ♕g7. 24...Kh8 25.Rf7 It is very hard to make a decision as Black now. 25...Ne2+

[25...Rf8!? 26.h4 Rxf7 27.Bxf7 Rd8!≠ (27...e4? 28.Bc4!± suddenly the g3-♜ is nearly trapped)]

26.Kf2 Nf4 27.Be4 Rf8! 28.Rf5! A good practical chance.

[28.Rxf8+?! led to a drawn endgame: Bxf8 29.Bxf4 exf4 30.Bxb7 Bxe7 31.Bxa8 Bxc5+ 32.Kf1 g4 33.g4= and despite White's passed h-♙, and a potential one on the ♖-side, the black f3-♙ makes up for it and gives enough compensation to hold the balance.]

28...Rxf5?

[28...Rae8! would force me to take on f8, thus solving many problems at once 29.Rxf8+ Bxf8 now I don't even have ♙b7 forcing a draw as mentioned in the last move, but in any case, this will run into a draw most likely: 30.Nf5 g4 31.g4 Ne6 32.b4 b6 33.cxb6 axb6 34.a3∞]

29.Nxf5 Now it becomes very uncomfortable, since I achieve my perfect coordination, and b7 becomes a real problem. 29...g4 30.g4 Rf8

[30...Rb8! was a difficult and interesting defensive idea, planning a strong counterattack on the white ♕ 31.Nd6 Rf8 32.Nxb7 Bh6! forcing 33.Bxf4 now the question is if Black can create enough play to compensate for the strong passed c-♙ exf4! 34.b4!?∞ (34.c6 Bg7! 35.b4 Be5 and seemingly, the drawing chances are big once again, ♕g7 to come, and a decent blockade on the white pawns)]

[30...Ne6!? another creative idea, avoiding the capture on b7 with a nice trick

A) 31.Bxb7? Rb8 32.Nxg7 (32.c6 Rf8!≠) 32...Nxc5! 33.Bxc5 Rxb7=;

B) 31.b4!?∞]

31.Kg3 Rg8? 32.Kf3?

[32.Bxb7+- was just winning right away.]

32...Rf8 33.Kg4 Now I felt it and if 33...♖g8 I was going to take on b7. But he realised it in time as well. 33...Rb8

[33...b6! was the most stubborn. Now for example: 34.c6 Bf6 with ♔d8 next, the ♜ stays on f4 and could make the h-♖ advance task a little bit tougher 35.Nd6 Bd8 36.h4±]

34.Nd6 In any case, Black is also lost here. 34...b6 35.c6 Ne6 36.h4

[36.Nb5! was the simplest path again a6 37.Bf5!+-]

36...Nc7 From now until the end, there were several winning lines - I didn't choose the most convincing one, but didn't spoil the game as well (as we all know, it is never too late to do so!). 37.h5 Bf8 38.Nf7+ Kg8 39.Nxe5 Re8 40.Kf5 Bg7 41.Nd7 Bxb2 42.Bf4 Rc8 43.Kg6 Kh8 44.h6 Ne6 45.Be5+ Bxe5 46.Nxe5 Nd8 47.Nf7+! Nxf7 48.Kxf7 Rd8 49.Bf5 Rd5 50.Ke6 Rc5 51.Be4 Rc4 52.Bd5 Rc3 53.Kd6 1-0 (53) Mekhitarian,K (2566)-Di Berardino,D (2494) Joao Pessoa 2013 CBM 158 [Mekhitarian,Krikor Sevag]

⁴⁴ Here it is the best blocking straegy **11...Ne8** 12.Qe2

[12.Be3 Nd6

A) 13.Qa4!? N a novelty Nc7 (13...f5 14.Rac1±) 14.Qa3 (14.Rac1±; 14.Bc5 b6 15.Ba3±) 14...b6 15.Nd2 (15.Rae1!? Bb7 16.Bd2)

A1) 15...f5 should be played: 16.Rac1 (16.Nc4 Ba6; 16.Qb3!?) 16...Nce8 17.Nc4 Nxc4 18.Bxc4 Nd6 19.Bd3± and White stands slightly better.;

A2) 15...Re8

A2a) 16.Nc4 Sandu, Mihaela: '±' Sandu, Mihaela: 'Trying to exchange the Blockading knight must have been White's first intention, but he found another interesting plan.' Ncb5 (16...Bf8 17.Nxd6 Bxd6 18.Qb3±) 17.Nxb5 Nxb5 18.Qb4 Nd4 19.h3±;

A2b) 16.Qb3 Sandu, Mihaela: 'It looks like White is losing time but his position is very sound and Black's counterplay doesn't appear sufficient' 16...f5 Sandu, Mihaela: 'typical KID counterplay but the knights are placed awkwardly.' 17.a4± White has at least a small advantage. Sandu, Mihaela: '!?' f4 (17...Rb8 18.Nc4 f4 19.Bf2) 18.Bf2

A2b1) 18...Ba6 19.Na2 Bxd3 20.Qxd3±;

A2b2) 18...Bf8 19.a5 (19.Rac1 Bg4) 19...bxa5 20.Rxa5±;

A2b3) 18...g5 19.a5 (19.Nc4 Bf8 20.a5 b5 21.Nxd6 Bxd6±) 19...b5 20.Rac1 Bd7 21.Na2 Sandu, Mihaela: 'heading towards c6' Na6 22.Nb4 Nxb4 23.Qxb4 Sandu, Mihaela: 'Exchanges favour White' Bf8 24.Nb3 Nc4

A2b31) 25.Bc5 Sandu, Mihaela: '♞' Nxb2 (25...Ne3 26.Rfe1) 26.Be2± Bg7 27.Bd6±;

A2b32) 25.Nc5 Bxc5 (It was better 25...Nxa5 26.Qa3 Nc4±)

26.Bxc5 Nxa5 27.Bd6 (27.Ra1! is better: Nb7 28.Rxa7 Nxc5
29.Qxc5± and White has the upper hand.) 27...Qb6+ 28.Bc5 Qd8
29.Bf2 (29.Ra1!) 29...a6 30.Be2 Nc4 31.Bh5

A2b321) A more precise one was Sandu, Mihaela: 'a better chance was' 31...a5 32.Qc3 a4 (32...Re7 Sandu, Mihaela: '±' Sandu, Mihaela: 'But Black didn't anticipate White's next move' 33.Bc5 g4 34.b3 Rg7 35.bxc4 Rg5 36.g3 b4 37.Qd2±) 33.Bxe8 Qxe8 34.Qb4± and White has only a small advantage.;

A2b322) 31...Re7?! A dubious move. 32.Rxc4! Sandu, Mihaela: 'The only way to prove the weaknesses in the Black camp.' a5 33.Qd6 bxc4 34.Bc5± White again has the better position. Re8 35.Bxe8 Qxe8 36.Qf6 Qg6 37.Qxe5 Re8 38.Qc7 (If 38.Be7 then Qg7 39.Qxg7+ Kxg7 40.Bxg5 Rxe4 41.Bxf4±) 38...Qf7 (38...Qg7 39.e5±) 39.Qxa5 (White is much better in the ending which follows 39.Re1 Bf5 40.Qxf7+ Kxf7 41.e5±) 39...Rxe4 40.Qd8+ Be8 41.Qxg5+ Qg6 42.Be7 Sandu, Mihaela: 'With the deep idea to later create a passed pawn on the kingside.' (42.Qxg6+!? hxg6 Sandu, Mihaela: 'Probably Damljanovic thought that the d5 pawn is easier to block.' 43.Bb4±) 42...Qxg5 43.Bxg5 Re5 44.Bxf4 (44.Bf6 Rxd5±) 44...Rxd5 White is a pawn up, but the presence of opposite-coloured bishops and the reduced material give to Black a chance for a draw. 45.Bh6 (45.h3!?) 45...Bf7 46.Ra1 Sandu, Mihaela: 'with winning chances, Indjic, A (2523) -Damljanovic, B (2566)/Subotica 2014, 1-0 (78).' Be6 47.Rf1 Rf5 48.Re1 Kf7 49.Bd2 h5 (49...Bd5 50.Re2) 50.h3 Bd5 51.Re2 Bc6 (White has only a small advantage after 51...Ba8 52.Kh2 Rf6±; or 51...h4 52.Be1 Rh5±) 52.Kh2 Rb5 (52...h4) 53.Bf4 Rf5 54.Kg3 Bd5 55.Bd2 Kg6 56.Kh4 Kf7 (56...Rf1±; 56...Rf6±) 57.Bc3 (57.g3) 57...Kg6 58.g3± Kf7 59.Rd2 Ke6 (59...Be6) 60.Rd4 (A faster way was 60.g4 hxg4 61.hxg4) 60...Kd6 (60...Rf3) 61.Rd1 Kc6 62.Re1 Kd7 63.Re2 Be6 64.Bd2 Rd5 65.Bf4 Bf7 66.Be5 Ke6 67.Bc3+ Kd7 68.Re4 Rf5 69.g4 hxg4 70.hxg4 Rf1 71.Kg5 Rf3? A mistake. (71...Be6 72.Kg6±; 71...Bd5 72.Rd4 Ke6 73.Kg6 Rf6+ 74.Kh5±) 72.Kh6! Bd5 73.Re1 (Better is 73.Re5! Be6 74.g5 Bf5 75.g6 Bd3 76.Rb5 Rh3+ 77.Kg7 Rg3 78.Rb6 and White is much better.) 73...Rf4 (73...Rh3+ 74.Kg6) 74.g5 Rh4+ (74...Rg4 75.g6 Be6 76.Rf1) 75.Kg7 Rg4 76.Bf6

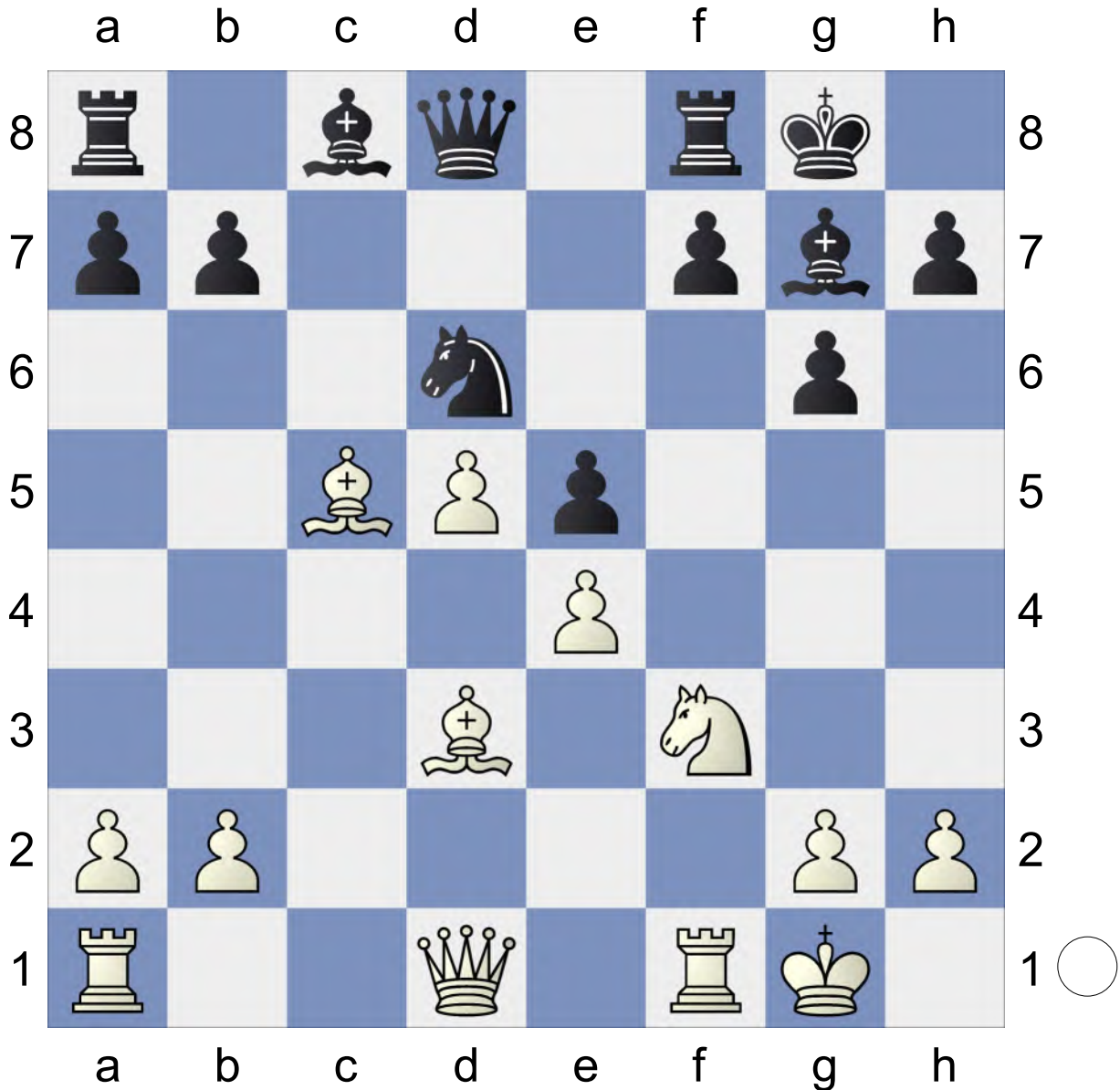
A2b3221) 76...Bf3 77.g6 Rg2 78.Kh7 Rh2+ 79.Kg8 Bd5+ 80.Kf8 Rh6 (80...Rf2 81.Re7+ Kc6 82.Rf7!+-) 81.Re7+ Kc6 82.Kg7 Rh2 (82...Rh1 83.Re5) 83.Be5 Rg2 84.Ra7
it seems that Black has major difficulties.;

A2b3222) 76...Be4? The last mistake. 77.Rxe4! Rxe4 78.Kf7

1-0 (78) Indjic,A (2523)-Damljanovic,B (2566) Subotica 2014

CBM 160 [Marjanovic,Slavoljub];

B) Marjanovic,Slavoljub: 'After' 13.Nb5 Nxb5 (13...b6) 14.Bxb5 Nc7 15.Bd3 (15.Ba4) 15...Ne8 16.Bc5 Nd6 Diagram



17.Nd2N Marjanovic,Slavoljub: '±' Marjanovic,Slavoljub: 'White has also a small advantage.' (17.Qb3) 17...b6 18.Ba3 b5 19.Bc5 Qc7 20.Rc1 Bd7 21.Qe1 f5 22.Qe3 Rac8 23.b4 a6 24.a4± Elwood,D-Bradney,R corr 147/(192) 2020] [12.Bg5!? f6 13.Be3 Nd6 14.Bxa6 (14.Nb5!? is typical) 14...bxa6 15.Qa4 Rf7 16.Rac1 Bf8 17.Bc5 a5 18.Rf2 Rb8 19.h3 Bd7 20.Qd1 a4 21.Kh2 Qa5 22.Ba3 Nc4 23.Bxf8 Rxf8 24.d6 Nxb2 25.Qd2 Nc4 26.Qd5+ Qxd5 27.Nxd5 Nxd6 28.Rc7 Nxe4 29.Re2 Bf5 30.g4 Be6 31.Ne7+ Kh8 32.Rxe4 ... Time. 1-0, R.Ponomarev-Golubev. A blitz match ended with a score 7.5-0.5 not in my favour: yes, we writers are not always performing well. But I must underline that I

was not in my best form on that day.]

12...Nc5

[12...Nd6 13.Bg5 f6 14.Bh4 Qe7 15.a3 Nc5 16.Bc2 b6 17.b4 Ba6 18.Qd1 Nd7 19.Bd3 Bxd3 20.Qxd3 Bh6 21.Nb5± Studeny,S-Kratochwil,C/Baden Baden op (05) 1993/1-0 (36)]

13.Bg5

[13.Bc2 b6 14.b4 Ba6 15.b5 Bb7±]

13...f6 14.Bh4 Nxd3 15.Qxd3 Nd6= 16.Nd2 Bd7 17.Nc4 Qc7 18.Nxd6 Qxd6

19.Bf2 f5 20.a4 a6 21.b4 Rac8! 22.Bc5 Rxc5 23.bxc5 Qxc5+ 24.Kh1 Qd4

25.Rf3 Rc8 26.Re1 Bh6 27.exf5 ½-½ Vaisser,A-Berkovich,M/Tel Aviv (10) 1992

CBM 46-4.e4 d6 5.f4 00 6.♗f3 ♗a6 Opening 1995 CBM 046 [Knaak,R]

11...Bd7 Gomez,J-Kulkarni,V/Gurgaon IND 2014. 12.Kh1 Ne8 13.Be3 Nd6 14.Qe2 Nc7 Probably this is a better setup for Black than in the previous variations. 15.Qf2 b6 Now the c6 weakness is not so easy to exploit. 16.a4 f5 17.Bg5 Qe8 18.exf5? White loses control of e4 and his centre is dismantled.

[18.a5 Ncb5!]

[♟18.Qd2 f4 19.Bh4 Would have been similar to Fridman-Vovk]

18...Bxf5 19.Bxf5 Rxf5 20.Qg3 e4! 21.Nh4 Not the best move in the position but a very nice practical try.

[21.Qxd6? exf3 22.Rxf3 Be5 23.Qe7 Qxe7 24.Bxe7 Rxf3 25.gxf3 Bxc3

26.bxc3 Nxd5≡ With a very pleasant endgame for Black]

[♟21.Nd2 Be5 22.Bf4 Bxf4 (22...Rxf4 23.Rxf4 Nf5 24.Qg4↑) 23.Rxf4 Qe5≡]

21...Be5?! Black's advantage evaporates

[21...Rxf1+ 22.Rxf1 Qe5! 23.Bf4 Rf8 24.Rf2 Qe7≡]

22.Nxf5!! A really great queen sacrifice. From now on White plays with marvellous precision. 22...Bxg3 23.Ne7+ Kg7 24.Bf6+ Kh6 25.hxg3≡ Black has to be careful, his king is quite weak. 25...Qd7 26.Kh2

[26.Rf4? g5-+]

26...Rf8 27.Rf4! Nf5

[27...g5 28.Rh1 gxf4? (28...Rxf6□ 29.Rxf6+ Kg7 30.Rxd6 Qxe7 31.Nxe4 Qxe4 32.Rd7+ Kg6 33.Rxc7 Qxd5 With good chances for a draw) 29.Kg1+-]

28.g4 Rxf6□ 29.Ng8+ Kg7 30.Nxf6 Kxf6?!

[♟30...Qd6 31.Raf1 Qxf6 32.gxf5 Nxd5! 33.Nxd5 Qe5 34.fxg6 (34.f6+ Kf8 35.Rc1 Qxd5 36.Rc8+=) 34...hxg6 35.Re1 g5 36.Rxe4 Qb8=]

31.gxf5 gxf5 32.g4 Kg5? Black doesn't feel the danger

[♟32...Kg7 33.Rxf5 Qd6+ 34.Kg2 Qb4∞]

33.Rxf5+ Kxg4 34.Rf2! Setting up a mating net 34...Qd6+ 35.Kh1 Qh6+ 36.Rh2 Qd6 37.Re1 Nxd5 38.Rg1+ Kf5 39.Rg5+ Ke6 40.Rh6+ Nf6 41.Rxf6+

1-0 (41) Gomez,J (2541)-Kulkarni,V (2336) Gurgaon IND 2014 [Sandu, Mihaela]

⁴⁵ Before it was tried **12...Ng4** 13.Qe2

[13.Qe1 Nc5 14.Bc2 f6 15.h3 Nh6 16.Be3 Bd7 17.Ba4! with great advantage, Mellado Trivino,J (2493)-Barrero Garcia,C (2300) Dos Hermanas 2000]

13...Nc5 14.Bc4 Bd7 15.h3 Nf6 16.Bg5 Nh5 17.Qf2 Na4 18.Nxa4 Qxf2 19.Rxf2 Bxa4 20.Re1± Pribyl,J-Beckhuis,G/BL 9394/1-0 (37)

13.Na4

[White would obtain a Very nice position after 13.Qe2 Qd6 14.Be3 Nh5 15.Qf2 f5 16.Rac1 Bxf3 17.gxf3 Nf4 18.Bc4 Kh8 19.Rfd1 Rac8 20.Nb5]

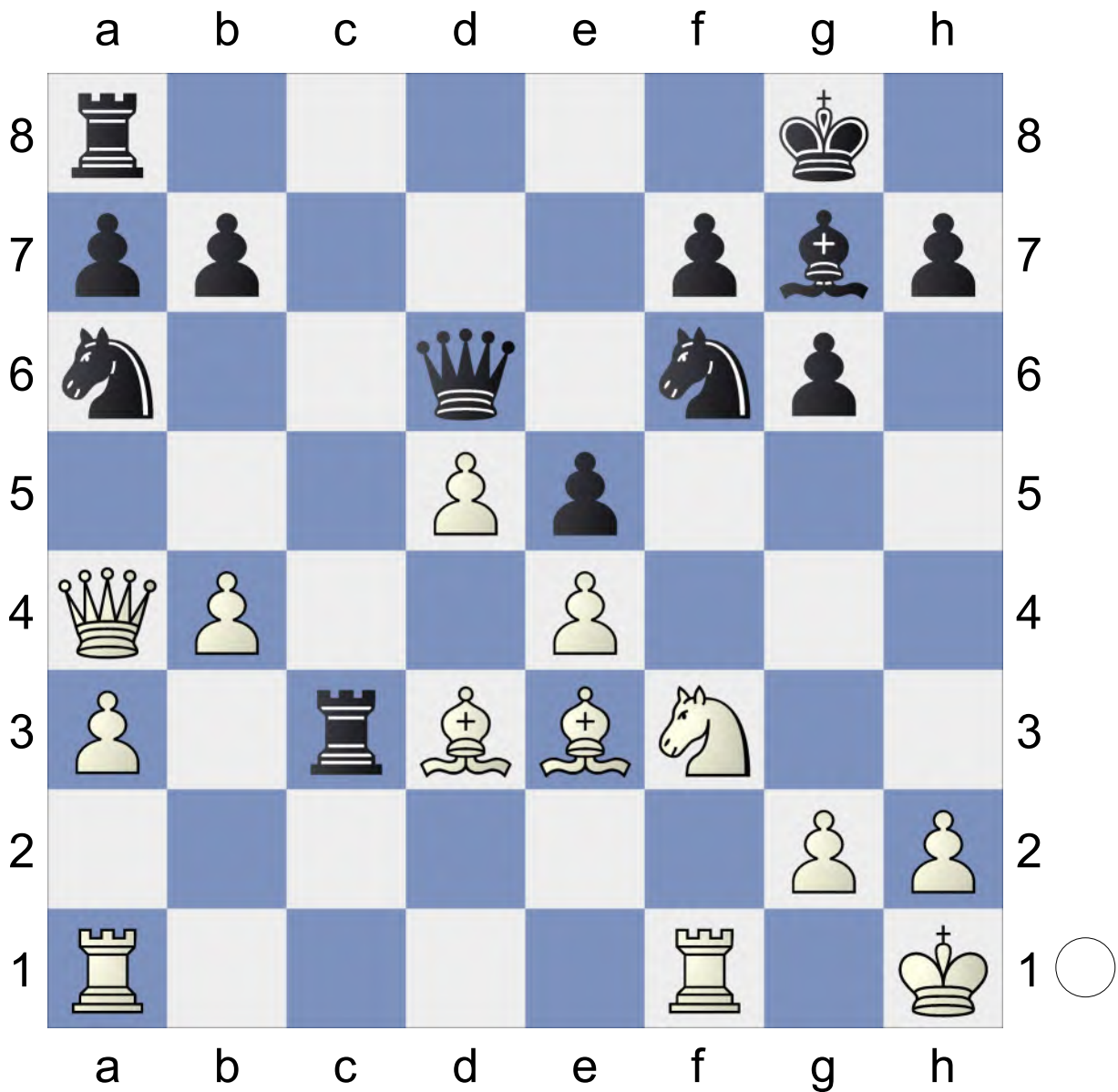
13...Qd6 14.Be3 Rfc8 15.a3!? Correct start of flank play.

[Nothing special promised 15.Nc3 Nc5 16.Nb5 Qd8]

15...Bd7 16.b4

[It was good option here 16.Nd2]

16...Bxa4 17.Qxa4 Rc3



18.Bxa6?

[Much better was centralization: 18.Rad1]

18...Qxa6! 19.Qxa6 bxa6 Now White starts to have problems with his central pawns.

20.Bd2 Rc4 21.Nxe5 Rxe4 22.Rae1 Re8

[Better than 22...Rxe1 23.Rxe1 Nxd5 24.Nc6]

23.Nc6 Nxd5 24.Rxe4 Rxe4 25.Re1

[Or 25.Nxa7 Rd4 26.Bc1 Rc4 27.b5 Bd4]

25...f5! 26.g3

[Funny was the practically forced line after 26.Rxe4 fxe4 27.Nxa7 e3 28.Be1 e2 29.Nc6 Bc3 30.Ne7+ Kf7 31.Nxd5 Bxe1 32.Nf4 Bxb4 33.Nxe2 Bxa3]

26...Bb2! 27.a4 Ba3 28.Rxe4

[28.Kg2 Rc4]

28...fxe4 29.Kg2 Kf7 30.Nxa7 Sooner or later this was necessary to do. 30...Bxb4

31.Bc1 Ne7! Blocking and cutting of the opponent's knight. 32.Be3 Ke6 33.g4 Kd7

34.Kg3 Nd5 35.Bd4 Bd6+ 36.Kg2 g5 37.Kg1 Kc7 0-1 (37) Tarlabasi,E (2275)-

Gokerkan,C (2461) Antalya 2020 CBM 199 Extra [Mikhalchishin,Adrian]

⁴⁶ Blocking things up with **10...c5** is always a controversial gesture, but even though the engines are dubitative it's not evident for White to 'refute' this idea:

11.a3

[11.Bg5!?±]

11...b6 12.Rb1 Bd7 13.Bc2

[I quite like 13.Bg5!± to make the following manoeuvre more problematic]

13...Ne8 14.Ba4 Nd6 15.Bxd7 Qxd7 16.b3 Nc7 17.Qe2 f5 Cebalo, M - Burnier, D Biel 2012, with a reasonable game for Black.

Rather slow is **10...h6** e.g. 11.a3 Nc5 12.Bc2 a5 13.Kh1 Ne8 14.Be3 Na6

[14...b6± keeps any disadvantage within reason]

15.Qd2 Kh7 16.b4! axb4

[16...f5±]

17.axb4 Qxb4 18.c5 1-0 Simantsev, M - Mischuk, D Kharkov 2009, and Black is facing heavy material losses.

Tempting is **10...Nc5** but then White knows where Black is 'coming from':

11.Bc2 a5 RR: '♠' RR: 'plus naturel car ♔d6 est un peu bizarre et les Blancs auront le coup intermédiaire ♘b5 attaquant la ♔' 12.Qe2

[12.Bg5 h6 13.Bh4 g5 14.Bg3 Ne8 15.a3 Bg4± ½-½ Turov,M (2639)-

Guttenthaler,F (2136) Bayern-chl Bank Hofmann 14th 2010 (4)]

12...Bd7 13.Kh1 b6 14.Rb1 Nh5 15.Be3 Bg4 16.Qf2 Nb7 17.Nb5 Koneru, H - Ju Wenjun, Antakya 2010, and the Indian star had the slightly easier game due to her space grip.

⁴⁷ After **11.Bb1** it's best not to be tempted by materialism: 11...Qc5+

[the safe, sound equalizing 11...a5!= is called for]

12.Kh1 Qxc4? (the pawn is too hot!) 13.a3 Na6 as in Sayari, S - Zaibi, A Tunis

2018, where White now captured on e5 with some advantage, but he could have played 14.Be3!+- when Black's queen would have been in trouble.

48 I think that **11...h6** 'posing the question' is more accurate.

49 **13.Qe2**

[The engine move is 13.Be2! after which I wonder if it's wise to win the exchange or not:

A) 13...Nf2+ 14.Rxf2 Qxf2 15.Qd2 (whereas if 15.Be7 a5 16.Bxf8 Bxf8 17.Nxe5 Bg7 18.Nd3 Qe3= Black would obtain ample play on the dark squares) 15...Qc5 16.a3 Na6 17.b4= with good practical chances for White, as his forces are better deployed and the exchange loss is hardly felt;

B) 13...f6 14.Bh4± and Black's aggressively-placed knights are not doing any damage.]

13...h6

[I don't know if Mamedov rejected the exchange grab on 'general' grounds (it does look a little dangerous), but there is a forcing sequence that White could then employ: 13...Nxd3 14.Qxd3 Nf2+ 15.Rxf2 Qxf2 16.Be7 Re8 17.Na4! Rxe7 18.Rf1 Qxf1+ 19.Qxf1= and although Black has had to give up his queen he is probably OK (Q vs R + piece). I can't remember seeing this material imbalance very often (Q + N + N vs R + R + B + B) and I'm not even sure which side I would take here.]

14.Bh4 Qe3

[Here 14...g5!? 15.Bg3 Qe3 seeking active play looks fine. There aren't any particular problems with the f5 and h5-squares, whereas the fight for the initiative is well under way.]

15.Bb1 a5?! This meets the threat of B-e7, but offers White a wide scope.

[More to the point is 15...g5! 16.Bg3 Qxe2 17.Nxe2 f5 with good counterchances.]

16.h3?! A bit docile.

[Instead, with the more challenging 16.Qd1!± Black's aggressively-placed pieces don't have easy targets and are in danger of being pushed back one by one.]

16...Qxe2 17.Nxe2 Ne3 18.Rc1 f5 19.a3 fxe4!

[Although 19...Na6 is not bad, 20.Bf2 f4 21.c5 enables White to obtain interesting play.]

20.Bxe4 Bf5 21.Bxf5 Nxf5 22.Nc3?? A dreadful move, but maybe Vaisser forgot that the opposing knight can now invade via d3.

[Necessary is 22.axb4 e.g. e4 23.Nfd4 Nxd4 24.Nxd4 Bxd4=]

22...Nd3 23.Rc2 e4 24.Nxe4 Nxh4 25.Nxh4 Rf4 White drops a piece. 26.Nxg6 Rxe4 27.g4 Rae8 28.c5 Bxb2 29.Rd1 Re1+ 30.Rxe1 Rxe1+ 31.Kg2 Rd1

[Restricting the opposing king with 31...Re3 might be even stronger.]

32.Kg3 Bxa3 33.d6 cxd6 34.c6 bxc6 35.Rxc6 Kf7 36.Nh4 Ne5 37.Rc7+ Ke6 38.Nf5 Bc1 39.Re7+ Kd5 40.Ra7 Rd3+ 41.Kg2 Ra3 42.Rc7 Bf4 Mamedov has finally organized his pieces and can thus move in for the kill. 43.Rb7 Ra2+ 44.Kf1 Ke4 45.Rb3 Nd3 0-1 (45) Vaisser,A (2501)-Mamedov,R (2654) Torneo INT 2021 [Flear,Glenn]

⁵⁰ **8.fxe5** dxe5 9.Nxe5

[9.d5 Nc5

A) 10.Bg5 h6 11.Bxf6 Qxf6 Marjanovic, Slavoljub: 'with an unclear position as can be seen in the game Lautier, J 2655 - Kasparov, G 2805, Amsterdam 1995.'

12.b4 Na6 (12...Nd7 13.a3 a5 14.c5 Qf4 15.g3 Qe3 16.Qd2 Qxd2+ 17.Kxd2 b6 18.c6 Nf6= This position is very complicated, which favors better players. Deep Junior 12 - Komodo 5.1, Internet 2013) 13.a3 c5 14.Rb1 Bd7 15.b5 Nc7= Key game J. Lautier - G. Kasparov, Amsterdam 1995;

B) 10.Qc2 Nfxe4!? 11.Nxe4 Bf5 12.Bd3 Bxe4 13.Bxe4 f5 14.Bxf5 gxf5 15.0-0 e4 16.Be3 Nd3 17.Nd4∞]

9...c5 10.Be3 Re8

[10...Nb4!? looks better, Huerta, R-Arizmendi, J/Madrid 2000.]

[10...Ng4 11.Nxg4?! (11.Bxg4 Bxg4 12.Nxg4 cxd4 13.Nd5 dxe3 14.0-0 is better for White) 11...cxd4 12.Nh6+ Kh8 13.Bf2 Bh3!? Belozero, A-Poldauf, D/Rethymnon GRE 2003.]

11.0-0 cxd4 12.Bxd4 Ng4 13.Nf3 Bxd4+ 14.Qxd4 Be6 White's centre seems shaky, but he has it all under control, Flear, G-Voiska, M/II Open, St Chely d'Aubrac FRA 2002. Four Pawns-Intro ChessPub Guide 2018 King's Indian [ChessPublishing.com]

8.0-0 exd4 9.Nxd4 Re8 10.Bf3 Nc5 11.Re1 Bg4! A typical strike. Black besieges e4 and experiences no difficulty with development. 12.Nb3 Bxf3 13.Qxf3 Nfd7 14.Nxc5 Nxc5 15.Bd2 c6 16.Kh1 Qe7 Klyashtorny, V-Khismatullin, D, ch-RUS Boys U20, Vladimir RUS 2002.

⁵¹ **13.Nf6+** Bxf6 14.Bxf6 Ng4 15.e5N

[Predecessor: 15.Bc3 Nc5 16.Nd2 Na4 17.Bd4 c5 18.Bg1 Nf6 19.0-0-0 Bd7 20.Bd3 Bc6 21.Bc2 0-1 Ellenbroek, T (2090)-Bark, E (2210) NED-ch53 sf Enschede 1998 (9)]

15...Nxf6 16.exf6 Bg4 17.h3 Bxf3 18.gxf3 Re6 19.Kf2 Rae8 20.Rhe1 Rxf6 21.Bf1 Rxe1 22.Rxe1 Rb6 23.Re8+ Kg7 24.b3 Rd6 25.Ra8 Rd2+ 26.Be2 Rxa2 27.Rxa7 Nb4 28.Rxb7 c5 29.Rb5 Rb2 30.Kf1 Nc2 31.Rxc5 Kf6 32.Bd3 Nd4 33.Be4 Nxb3 34.Rb5 Nd2+ 35.Ke2 Nxc4+ 36.Rxb2 Nxb2 37.Bd5 Na4 38.Bc4 Nb6 39.Bb3 Nc8 40.f4 Nd6 41.Kf3 Kg7 42.Kg4 f5+ 43.Kf3 Kh6 44.Bd1 Nc4 45.h4 Kg7 46.Be2 Nb6 47.Bd1 Kf6 48.Bb3 Nd7 49.Bc4 Ke7 50.Ke3 Nf6 51.Kd4 Kd6 52.Bb3 Nh5 53.Ke3 Kc5 54.Bg8 Nf6 55.Bf7 Nd5+ 56.Kf3 Kd6 57.Bg8 Kc5 58.Bf7 Nf6 59.Ke3 Ng4+ 60.Kd3 Kd6 61.Bg8 Nf6 62.Bf7 Nd5 63.Bg8 Nxf4+ 64.Ke3 Ng2+ 65.Kf2 Nxe4 66.Bxe7 Ke5 67.Kg3 g5 68.Bg8 Ng6 69.Bf7 Kf6 70.Be8 Ne5 71.Bb5 f4+ 72.Kf2 g4 73.Ba4 Kg5 74.Bc2 g3+ 75.Kg2 Kg4 76.Be4 f3+ 77.Kg1 Kf4 78.Bb7 Ng4 79.Bc6 Ne3 80.Kh1 f2 0-1 (80) Sava, R (2023)-Tzidkiya, Y (2437) Brasov 2023

⁵² Dembo, Yelena: 'In the archives we can find' **7.dxe5** dxe5 8.Qxd8!

[Mikhail Golubev: 'Instead, Mamedyarov played' More natural than Mamedyarov's

8.Nxe5 surprisingly this move seems to lead to a draw almost by force, Mamedyarov,S-Svidler,P/Baku AZE 2008. , albeit also an option which Svidler must have been happy enough to face. Qxd1+ 9.Kxd1 Na6 10.Be2 Rd8+ 11.Kc2 Nxe4! Dembo,Yelena: 'led to a quick draw in Mamedyarov, S (2752)-Svidler, P (2746)/Baku 2008' 12.Nxe4 Bf5 13.Bf3 Nc5 14.Re1 Bxe5 15.fxe5 Rd4 Trajko Nedev: '=' 16.Kc3 Rd3+ 17.Kb4 (17.Kc2 Rd4=) 17...Na6+ 18.Ka5 b6+! 19.Kxa6 Bc8+ 20.Kb5 Bd7+ 21.Ka6 Bc8+= 1/2-1/2 Key game S. Mamedyarov - P. Svidler, Baku 2008]

8...Rxd8 9.Nxe5

[White might also try for an advantage with 9.fxe5 , but he appears unable to prove one after Ng4 :

A) 10.Nd5 Rd7 11.Bg5 transposes to variation 'a' Nxe5!?

A1) probably **12.Ne7+** is a better try, although after the long line Kf8 (here Black might even consider too 12...Rxe7!? 13.Bxe7 Nxf3+ 14.gxf3 Bxb2 15.Rd1 Nc6 with some dark-square play for the exchange) 13.Nxc8 Nbc6 14.Nxe5 Nxe5 15.Ne7 h6 16.Nxg6+ fxe6 17.Be3 Kg8 18.Be2 Nd3+ 19.Bxd3 Rxd3 20.Ke2 Rd6 Black should be able to obtain sufficient counterplay against White's slightly vulnerable structure;

A2) 12.Nf6+ Bxf6 13.Bxf6 Ng4 14.Bc3 (White might cover the e3-square with 14.Bg5 , but then Nc6 15.h3 h6 16.Bd2 Nf6 gives Black good central counterplay in any case) 14...Nc6 15.h3 Ne3 16.Rc1 Re7 prepared to regain a bishop and was fine for Black in Z.Djukic-L.Hazai, Sofia 1979.;

B) 10.Bf4 Nc6! reveals yet another justification for not preparing ...e5 with 6...Nbd7 or 6...Na6, and after 11.Nd5 Rd7 (Black can also jettison the c-pawn: 11...Be6!? 12.Nxc7 Rac8 13.Nd5 Re8 14.Be2 Ngxe5 , which regains one of the sacrificed pawns and leaves Black with reasonable activity for the other) 12.e6? (too ambitious; 12.Rd1 improves, after which Ncxe5 13.Nxe5 Nxe5 14.Nxc7!? Rxc7 15.Rd8+ Bf8 16.Bxe5 is a little tactic, but not one which supplies any advantage after Rd7 17.Rxd7 Bxd7 18.Bd3 f5) 12...fxe6 13.Nxc7 e5! 14.Nxe5 (White is in trouble too in the case of 14.Nxa8 exf4 15.Rb1 Re7) White would have been in trouble in D.Gkogkas-N.Skalkotas, Athens 2004, had Black settled for 14...Ngxe5 15.Nxa8 Rd4 16.Be2 Rxe4 17.Bxe5 Bxe5 with more than enough for the exchange, as White's knight isn't going to escape from a8.;

C) Vaissier has suggested that White might try **10.Bg5** , preparing to meet

C1) I feel that Black should again prefer to unpin with **10...Rd7!?** when 11.Nd5 transposes to variation 'a' (and 11.Be2 h6 12.Bf4 Nc6 also seems fine for Black);

C2) 10...Re8?! with 11.Nd5 Na6 12.c5! .;

D) 10.--]

9...Nxe4!?

[9...b6! 10.Be2 (10.Nd5 Nxe4! 11.Nxc7 Na6 12.Nxa8 Nb4 13.Ke2 Nc2 14.Nc7 Bxe5 15.Nd5 Bg7 Black has more than adequate compensation for

material deficit.) 10...Bb7 11.Nd5 Nxd5 12.cxd5 c6 13.d6 Rxd6= Equal chances, quiet position.]

[Palliser gives an exclamation mark to this move. After Meanwhile Ian Rogers once tried 9...Na6 he mentions , which aims for a favourable transposition to a 6...Na6 line, but after 10.Be3! I am not wholly convinced by Black's compensation.]

[And after Forcing the pace once again. Black has often preferred 9...Re8 '?!' 10.Bd3! it is known for a long time that Nxe4? (10...Na6 is a better way to obtain at least a bit of compensation) 11.Bxe4 f6 (once suggested by Boleslavsky) is refuted by , but this isn't recommended because 12.Bd5+! and 13. Bf7 +-. Kh8 13.Bf7! Rf8 14.Nxg6+ hxg6 15.Bxg6 leaves White two pawns ahead, B.Kouatly-J.Magem Badals, Pontevedra 1986.]

10.Nxe4 f6 11.c5! with advantage, Gerard,N-Sandu,M/Chamalieres FRA 2009.

Dembo,Yelena: 'Gerard, N (2275)-Sandu, M (2305)/Chamalieres 2009.' Mikhail Golubev: 'A good idea for White, it seems.'

[11.Nxf6+ The most obvious way of pocketing a pawn, but not White's only option: Bxf6

A) Nunn stopped here with an assessment of slightly better for White in NCO, but I'm not so convinced. However, neither does 12.Bd2 Nc6 13.Bc3 (C.Lingnau-W.Finke, German League 1988) promise any advantage, since Black can regain his pawn with Nxe5! 14.fxe5 Bxe5 15.Bxe5 Re8 , based on the point that 16.0-0-0 Rxe5 17.Rd8+ Kf7 18.Bd3 Re8 19.Rf1+ Ke7 20.Rxe8+ Kxe8 fails to lead anywhere for White.;

B) The highest-rated game to reach this position actually saw 12.Be3!? and after

B1) however, I prefer 12...Bf5! , which looks like a much better try to equalize: 13.Rd1 (or 13.Be2 Nd7 14.Nxd7 Rxd7 and there's no good way to defend b2) 13...Rxd1+ 14.Kxd1 Bxe5 15.fxe5 Nc6 16.Kd2 Nxe5 and Black's centralized pieces should offset White's bishop-pair;

B2) 12...Nc6 13.Nxc6 bxc6 14.Rd1! Re8 15.Kf2 Bxb2 16.Be2 White had returned the extra pawn to maintain a clear pull in A.Law-M.Muse, Berlin 1998.;

C) 12.Nf3 Bg4 (Not the only approach: 12...Nc6!/? with the idea of 13.Be2 Nd4 14.Nxd4 Bxd4 , should also give Black enough for his pawn.) 13.Be2 We've followed the old game G.Trikaliotis-G.Skalkotas, Netanya 1968, in which Black was now keen to prevent White from castling. However, there's no need for

C1) and 13...Nc6! appears even stronger: 14.Bd2 (14.0-0? Nd4! reveals Black's main idea; White will either have to allow his pawns to be smashed on f3 or a black rook into d1) 14...Re8 15.Kf2 Bxb2 and Black regains the pawn with a good game, since 16.Rab1 Ba3 17.Rxb7? Bc5+ 18.Kf1 Rad8 looks rather inadvisable for White.;

C2) 13...Re8 , 6...e5 Four Pawns-B: 7 dxe5]

[a) 11.Nf3?! Re8 reveals the main point of Black's play - he will regain his piece

with full equality. R.Troeger-F.Thiede, Schkopau 1955, continued 12.Kf2 Rxe4 13.Bd3 Re8 14.Bd2 (or 14.Be3 Nc6 15.Rad1 and here a draw was agreed in Kjoebel-Johani, correspondence 1965; Be6 16.b3 a5 is certainly level, albeit not totally lifeless) 14...Nc6 15.Rae1 Be6 16.b3 f5 and Black was already beginning to obtain the upper hand.]

[b) 11.Nxg6 hxg6 12.Kf2 gives White an extra pawn, but Svidler must have believed that White's central holes give Black enough compensation. Mikhalevski has analysed Nc6 (12...Na6!? 13.Be2 f5 14.Ng5 Nb4 is another idea) 13.Nc3 (13.Be3 f5 14.Nc3 Be6 transposes) 13...Be6 14.Be3 f5 and I have to agree that Black has some pressure here: transposes 15.Rc1 Nb4!? 16.Be2 Nd3+ 17.Bxd3 Rxd3 18.Nb5 Rc8 19.Nxa7 Rcd8 leaves White two pawns ahead, but unable to maintain the advantage in view of the threats of 20...Bxb2 and 20...Rxe3.]

11...fxe5N

[In Schulze-Arnillas Moles, ICCF corr. 1990 there was 11...Re8?! 12.Bb5! c6? 13.Nd6+- and White won quickly.]

12.Bc4+ Kf8

[The alternative sidestepping the check on f7, but Black may be able to allow that: 12...Kh8!? 13.Ng5! Rd4 14.Nf7+ Kg8 15.Nxe5+ Kf8 16.0-0 Bf5 is also mentioned in the book, and if and Black might drum up some play, as he does with, for example, 17.b3 Nc6 (Palliser). Possibly here Black has more chances for an equality? 18.Bb2 Rd2]

13.fxe5!

[Instead, Palliser analyses 13.Ng5 (as suggested by the correspondence player Topchy in 1992), etc. h6 14.fxe5! (critical; Black clearly doesn't face any problems after 14.Ne6+ Bxe6 15.Bxe6 exf4 16.0-0 Bd4+ ,; while 14.0-0 e4! 15.Nxe4 Rd4 16.Nd2 Bf5 gives him promising compensation with White rather tied up) 14...hxg5 15.0-0+ Bf5 16.g4 Bxe5 17.gxf5 , which reaches quite an important position. Black's king is exposed, but he appears to be able to plug lines with Bf6! 18.fxg6 Kg7 , after which 19.Be3 Nc6 doesn't seem so clear; Black's knight is set to come to one of the d4- and e5-squares, and so long as he displays a little care, this should fizzle out to a draw.]

13...Rd4 Black hardly has a choice. 14.0-0+ Bf5 15.Nd2?!

[White is clearly better after 15.Be6! (sacrificing a piece temporarily) Rxe4 16.Bd5 Mikhail Golubev: ', transposing to the same line. After 15.Nd2?! Black is OK.' Rb4 17.a3! Rb5 18.g4 Bxe5 (or 18...c6 19.Be6 Bxe5 20.gxf5) 19.gxf5] [or 15.Bb3! Rxe4 16.Bd5 , transposing to the same line. After 15.Nd2?! Black is OK.]

15...Nc6

[Possibly, more precise is 15...Nd7!? 16.Be6 Nxc5! 17.Bxf5 gxf5 18.Rxf5+=]

16.Be6 Nxe5 17.Nb3! Rd3 18.Bxf5 gxf5 19.Rxf5+ Kg8 20.Bf4 Rf8?!

[Most likely Black should have played 20...Re8! (where 21.Re1?? is, indeed, a blunder: Nf3+ wins a rook) with more activity for the pawn than she had in the

game.]

21.Rxf8+ Kxf8 22.Re1?! At this stage of the game White did not manage to exploit his winning chances. 22...Nc6 23.Bxc7 Bxb2 24.Re4 Bf6 25.Bg3 Kf7 26.Kf2 Rc3 27.Re3 Rc2+ 28.Re2 Rc4 29.Rd2 Ke6 30.Rd6+ Ke7 31.Ke2 a5 32.Rd3 a4 33.Bd6+ Kf7 34.Nd2 Rc2 35.a3 ½-½ (35) Gerard,N (2275)-Sandu,M (2305) Chamalieres FRA 2009 [Mikhail Golubev]

⁵³ Definitely best. As we saw in the notes to Mamedyarov-Svidler, **8.Nxe5** '?' 8...c5 '!' is most certainly not what White should be doing. 9.Bg5N

[Predecessor: 9.d5 Nxe4 10.Nxe4 Qh4+ 11.Ng3 Re8 12.Be2 Bxe5 13.Kf2 Bd4+ 14.Kf1 Nd7 15.Bd2 Ne5 0-1 Favour,A-Zhou,R Kasparov CF University Cup rapid 2022 (7.5)]

9...cxd4 10.Nd5 h6 11.Bxf6 Bxf6 12.Nf3 Re8 13.Bd3 Nc6 14.0-0 Bg7 15.Qd2 Be6 16.Rae1 a5 17.a3 Kh7 18.Bc2 Qd6 19.Ba4 Rad8 20.Bc2 Ne5 21.Qxa5 Nxc4 22.Qb5 Bxd5 23.exd5 Rxe1 24.Nxe1 Ne3 0-1 (24) Lopez Perdomo,J (2029)-De Souza,C (2018) Chess.com INT 2023

⁵⁴ This leads to a line that usually arises from 6...Na6. **8...c6** is the independent recommendation of Palliser in DW. '!' 9.Bd3

[A natural enough development with the queen's knight on a6, but now Black is able to exploit the delay in developing that piece. Thus White might do better with 9.Bg5 , although after Nbd7 Black should still be okay:

A) 10.Bd3 Qb6! prevents White from castling and after

A1) or **11.Qe2** Nc5 12.0-0-0 cxd5 13.cxd5 Bd7!? when Black is all set to obtain counterplay on the queenside; thus White might plunge into the critical line, but it seems that 14.Nxe5 Nfxe4! 15.Nxd7 Nxc3 16.Nxb6 Nxe2+ 17.Bxe2 axb6 is okay for Black who remains quite actively placed after both 18.Kb1 (and 18.a3 Rfe8 19.Bf3 h6 20.Bf4 Na4) 18...Ne4;

A2) 11.Na4

A2a) Black preferred **11...Qa5+** 12.Bd2 Qd8 in A.Lutikov-A.Geller, Leningrad 1955, when White could find nothing better than repeating with 13.Bg5 ; (however, it's not clear that there was anything better, since 13.Qe2 b5! 14.dxc6 bxa4 15.cxd7 Qxd7 16.Bc3 Nh5 doesn't look at all clear);

A2b) **11...Qb4+** 12.Bd2 Qe7 13.Qe2 b5! 14.dxc6 bxa4 15.cxd7 Bxd7 (or 15...Qxd7!? as in our last variation; a move which is based upon the point that 16.Nxe5 Qe7 17.Nf3 Re8 will regain the pawn down the e-file) 16.0-0 Bc6 17.Bg5 Qc5+ 18.Kh1 Nh5 was roughly balanced in B.Balogh-F.Portisch, Budapest 1970; Black's doubled a-pawns are actually a help here, since b2 can be targeted and White will struggle to advance his queenside majority.;

B) 10.Qd2 Nc5 11.Bd3 Qb6! gives Black easy and thematic counterplay.;

C) 10.Be2 gives Black a couple of options: .

C1) 10...Qb6 looks quite sensible, preparing to meet 11.Qd2 (and 11.Qb3 with Qc5) with 11...Nc5.;

C2) 10...Nc5!? looks quite sensible too. Here 11.b4 is quite ambitious but might be tried, (since 11.0-0? Qb6 is inadvisable for White as the critical line 12.Be3 Ng4 13.Na4 Nxe3 14.Nxb6 Nxd1 15.Nxa8 Nxb2 leaves his knight stuck and Black with excellent play for the exchange.);

C3) 10...--;

D) 10.--]

[TRICKY TRANSPOSITION: After 9.Be2 those with some experience of the 6...Na6 variation may prefer Na6!?, which takes play into that variation, but with White committed to a Be2 set-up rather than the probably more challenging Bd3 ones.]

Returning to 9 Bd3: 9...b5! DANGEROUS WEAPON! Black ignores the development of his queenside for the time being, preferring to blow up White's centre and this aggressive thrust promises him good counterplay. 10.0-0

[Natural, but not the only move. Future games may test the alternatives, although 10.dxc6 bxc4 11.Bxc4 Qxd1+ 12.Nxd1 Nxc6 should certainly be okay for Black; d5 is no weaker than d4.]

[Perhaps White might develop with 10.Bg5!?, but after Bb7 (10...bxc4 11.Bxc4 Qb6 is the alternative) 11.Nxe5 Qd6!?, 12.Nf3 (another critical line runs 12.Nxc6 Nxc6 13.dxc6 Qxc6, but Black's pieces are very active here and he cannot be worse after 14.cxb5 Qc5 15.Qd2 Rad8 16.Be3 Qe7 with good central pressure; I suppose that 12.Bxf6 Bxf6 13.Ng4 is an option too, although after Bg7 White is again quite uncoordinated and Black very strong on the dark squares) 12...Ng4 Black has good compensation for the pawn; White's centre remains likely to crumble and there are various threats on the dark squares, as illustrated by 13.0-0? (13.Qe2 h6 14.Bd2 improves when Black should probably keep up the pressure with bxc4 15.Bxc4 Re8) 13...h6! 14.Bh4 bxc4, regaining the pawn with some advantage thanks to the check on c5.]

10...bxc4 11.Bxc4 We've followed the game D.Hausrath-G.Van Laatum, Belgian League 1997, in which Black was now a little too keen to exchange on d5. I would prefer to continue the fight for control of that key square with 11...Nbd7!?, which should equalize: 12.dxc6

[White gets nowhere after 12.Bg5 Nb6 13.Bb3 cxd5 14.Bxd5 Nbx5 15.Nxd5 Bb7 with sufficient counterplay for Black down the h1-a8 diagonal]

12...Qb6+ 13.Kh1 Qxc6 14.Bd5 Nxd5 15.Nxd5 Qb7! and I believe that Black should be okay, despite the current weakness of d5; 16...Nb6 will follow. That plan might be met by 16.Bg5 f6 17.Be3 Nb6 18.Bxb6 axb6, but Black should not be unhappy here; ...Be6 will challenge White's grip and it might even be possible to arrange ...f5. 6...e5 Four Pawns-A: 7 fxe5

As well as the text, another independent idea worthy of further attention is **8...Nh5!?**. Black has ideas of both ...Nf4 and ...f5, and is most certainly exploiting the fact that he hasn't yet spent a tempo developing his queen's knight in

comparison with both the modern 6...Na6 and the old 6...Nbd7 variations. Here the recent game A.Chua-C.Airapetian, Tulsa 2008, continued 9.Be3

[also very possible is 9.Be2 when f5 10.exf5 Bxf5 11.0-0 Nf4 12.g3 Nxe2+ 13.Qxe2 Nd7 should be okay for Black; White currently controls the important e4-square, but his kingside light squares are a little weak]

9...f5 10.Qc2

[alternatively, 10.Qd2 should probably be met too by Na6 11.0-0-0 Qe7 ,]

[but White doesn't have to play so aggressively and 10.Bd3 is fairly sensible;

Black should perhaps then rescue his knight from the rim and Nf6!? 11.0-0 f4

12.Bc5 Re8 doesn't look at all clear with ...Ng4 remaining very much an idea]

10...Na6!

[the game actually saw White obtaining the upper hand after 10...fxe4 11.Nxe4 Bg4?! 12.0-0-0! Nd7 13.c5!]

11.0-0-0 Qe7 would have been sensible, taking control of the c5-square and giving Black decent enough play.

⁵⁵ Vorgänger: **10...cxd5** 11.cxd5 Ng4 12.Bg1 f5 13.Qe2 Nb4 14.Bb1 fxe4 15.Bxe4 a5 16.a3 Na6 17.0-0-0 Nf6 1-0 Cutmore,D (2102)-De Coverly,R (2093) BCF-chT3 0304 (4NCL) 2003 (3.6)

⁵⁶ **13.Bf2** cxd5 14.cxd5 fxe4 15.Nxe4 Qxd5 16.Qe2 Kh8 17.0-0 Bf5 18.Nfg5 Nxe4 19.Bxe4 Bxe4 20.Nxe4 Nb4 21.Rfd1 Qa5 22.Nd6 Qc7 23.Rac1 Nc6 24.Qb5 Rab8 25.Ne4 Qf7 26.Bc5 Nd4 27.Qd3 Rfd8 28.Bd6 Rbc8 29.Rxc8 Rxc8 30.Kh1 h6 31.Qg3 Nf5 32.Qa3 Rd8 33.Rc1 Qd5 34.Qf3 Nxd6 0-1 (34) Polaczek,R (2302)-Guseinov,G (2661) Chess.com INT 2023

⁵⁷ **7.Be2** cxd4 ChessPublishing.com: 'leads to [E78]- [E79].' 8.Nxd4 Bg4!

[8...Nc6 9.Be3 Qb6 Schwarz hat ausgeglichen]

9.Be3

[9.Bxg4 Nxg4]

9...Qc8 10.0-0

[10.Nd5 Bxe2 11.Qxe2 Qd7 12.Nxf6+ exf6 Pomar Salamanca, A-Gligoric,S/ Havana ol (Men) fin-A 1966 (12)/0-1]

10...Bxe2 11.Qxe2 Ng4 Szabo,L-Tal,M/Alekhine Memorial 1963 (11)/1/2-1/2

⁵⁸ **7...Na6!** Trajko Nedev: '!?' 8.cxd6 exd6 9.Bd3 Qb6 10.Qe2

[10.Na4 Qc6 11.Nd4 Qe8 12.0-0 Nxe4 13.Nb5 Nb4 14.Bb1 Qc6 15.a3 Na6 16.Re1 Re8= The position is objectively equal, but precise play is required from both sides. N. Kosirog - A. Baydashkin, corr. 2014]

10...Nc5 11.Rb1

[11.Be3 Qxb2! 12.Qxb2 Nxd3+]

11...Re8 12.Be3 Bf5! 0-1 Barrett,S-Smith,B/New York Championship 2017/ [Nectaris,Mare] (37)

The alternative **7...dxc5** is rare but perhaps not so bad. a recent example went Bellmann,Herbert(GER)SM: '∞' '?' offers White a pleasant choice: Alternatively, he can develop his king's bishop and even think about a middlegame attack with 8.Bd3 . Indeed, this has been the choice of the Icelandic GM Helgi Gretarsson, who has added much to the theory of 7 dxc5. Then the natural

[8.--]

[He can exchange queens when his space advantage enables him to maintain a slight superiority: 8.Qxd8 Rxd8 9.e5 Ne8 10.Be3 b6 11.Nd5 Nc6 12.0-0-0 Bb7 13.Be2 Rac8 14.Rd2 , for example, gave a pull in Y.Zimmerman-T.Balogh, Komarno 1997.]

8...Nc6 is met by 9.e5 , setting problems for the second player: for example, 9...Nb4 '!'

[Black really wants to exchange queens!; 9...Ne8 10.Be3 b6 11.Be4 Bb7 12.h4 Na5 13.Bxb7 Nxb7 14.Qc2 also left White clearly better in H.Gretarsson-J.Riff, Mulhouse 1997]

10.Bb1 Qxd1+ 11.Nxd1 Nh5!?

[Flear mentioned 11...Ne8 12.Be3 b6 13.Be4 Rb8 14.a3 Na6 15.Nc3 H.Gretarsson-A.Mossin, Reykjavik 1994 in DW:KI left White clearly better in H. Gretarsson-A.Mossin, Reykjavik 1994.]

12.Be3 f6!? kind of a typical pawn sac in these types of endgames

[12...b6 13.a3 Nc6?! 14.Be4 Bd7 15.g4!]

13.Bxc5 Nc6 14.exf6 Bxf6 15.g3 Be6 16.Bd3 was Flear, G (2481)-Ledger, D (2266) Hastings 2012. Now Black should probably play 16...Rfd8 and ...Rac8 with some compensation for the pawn.

⁵⁹ Here Black has an alternative that is extremely provocative, namely **8...Nfd7** . DANGEROUS WEAPON! White should respond by taking up the gauntlet with 9.cxd6 '!' , which is a forthright sacrificial continuation! Black then has little choice, but for 9...Bxc3+ 10.bxc3 Qxc3+ 11.Qd2 when he will normally capture the rook, but exchanging queens deserves a mention: The principled move is 11...Qxa1 '?' and then following

[Although 11...Qxd2+ '?' has a bad reputation it shouldn't be rejected out of hand: 12.Kxd2 exd6 13.Nd4± White has a lasting advantage. V. Priehoda - M. Ac, Bratislava 1997 (here 13.Ba3 Nc5 14.Bxc5 dxc5 15.e5 is worth an edge) 13...Na6 14.Ba3 Ndc5 15.Rae1 b6 16.Nb5 Rd8 was seen in V.Priehoda-M.Ac, Bratislava 1997, when White had the bishop-pair and the better chances, but Black was well dug in. Maybe 17.Nc3 intending to come to d5 would then have been the best way of maintaining the pressure.]

[11.--]

12.dxe7 '!' 12...Re8 White has 13.e5 , cutting off the black queen's retreat. Some leading analysts have spent time fathoming out the ramifications of this sharp position: 13...Nc6

[13...Nc5 falls short due to 14.0-0 Nxd3 15.Ba3!]

14.0-0 when Black has to decide what to do about his endangered queen:

However Black's chances are more reasonable after 14...Nc5 '!':

[14...--]

[After 14...Nd4 15.Ng5! I really don't think much of Black's position, as shown by:

A) 15...Ne6 16.Nxe6 fxe6 17.Bxg6! hxd6 18.Ba3 Qxf1+ 19.Kxf1 a5!

(19...Kf7? loses to 20.f5 Nxe5 21.Qh6 Bd7 22.Bb2 exf5 23.Bxe5) 20.f5

exf5 was seen in M.Vukadinov-I.Smirin, Winnipeg 1997, and now critical is

21.Qh6! Ra6 22.Bd6 Rxd6 23.exd6 Kf7 with a difficult but perhaps not

hopeless task for Black.;

B) 15...Nb3 16.axb3 Qd4+ 17.Kh1 Nc5 18.Nxh7 Rxe7 19.Nf6+ Kg7 20.f5

Qh4 21.fxg6 Nxd3 22.Qxd3 Be6 23.Qd6 , and White is winning as analysed

by Van der Wiel.;

C) 15...h6 16.Bb2 Qxa2 17.Nxf7 Kxf7 18.Bxg6+ Kxg6 19.Qxd4 Qb3 20.Rf2

Qb6 21.Qe4+ Kg7 22.f5 is winning too, as given by Konikowski and

Soszynski.;

D) 15...Nc5 16.Ba3 Ncb3 17.Qf2! Qc3 18.Qh4 h5 19.Ne4 gave White a

winning attack in H.Gretarsson-J.Van der Wiel, Leeuwarden 1995.;

E) 15...--]

15.Ba3 Nb3 16.Rxa1 Nxd2 17.Nxd2 Nxe7 18.Ne4 Rd8 19.Nf6+ '?!'

[White does better with Vaisser's suggestion of 19.Nd6! , which gives him an

impressive-looking bind for only a small material investment; however, after the

further moves b6 20.Be4 Rb8 21.Kf2 (or 21.Nxc8 Nxc8 22.Bd5 Re8 23.Kf2

Ne7) 21...Be6 22.Rd1 Nf5 23.Bd5 Nxd6 24.Bxd6 Rbc8 Black seems to be

holding firm for the time being - thus 8...Nfd7 may not be refuted, but it doesn't

equalize]

19...Kg7 was the course of Y.Zimmerman-M.Stypka, Krakow 1991, and now Vegh

and Zimmerman suggest 20.Be4= White has sufficient compensation for

material deficit. Rybka 3 - Stockfish 1.8, Internet 2010

[20.Bd6 , but with Bf5! Black liberates.]

⁶⁰ **9...Nbd7!?** This modest developing move blocks the bishop's diagonal, but is not as bad as some books seem to make out. 10.Be3 ROLL THE DICE! This is a very natural move, but it does lead to a fairly speculative gambit which won't suit everyone.

[Thus it's worth contemplating the alternatives at this point. As Black doesn't have any immediate threats, there is perhaps no hurry to place the bishop on e3 and so

after some thought I have come up with the surprising 10.a3! . Now White can toy

with b2-b4 in the near future, and will indeed meet b6 (instead 10...Ng4 11.Bd2

leaves Black short of meaningful threats, but White, on the other hand, can

improve his position with h2-h3 or b2-b4 followed by Rc1; otherwise retreating the

queen with 10...Qb6 allows 11.e5 dxe5 12.fxe5 Ng4 13.Nd5 Qd8 14.Bf4

when White obtains the initiative) with 11.b4 . Overall, I quite like 10 a3 and hope

that it will soon be tested in practice.]

10...Qa5

[The solid but somewhat passive 10...Qc7 11.0-0 a6 12.Rac1 e6 13.Kh1 b6 of G.Flear-R.Willmoth, Uppingham 1987, should probably have been met by 14.b4 Bb7 15.Bd4 , maintaining a grip on the centre.]

11.0-0

[A natural move, but there is a downside as Black can snatch the b-pawn under reasonable circumstances. The alternatives, however, are poor: 11.Rc1 can be well met by Nc5 12.0-0 Ng4 ,]
[and 11.h3 by Nh5 .]

11...Ng4! 12.Bd2!?

[12.Nd5 should be met by e6! (12...Re8?! allows White to consolidate with 13.Bd2 Qd8 14.Rab1) 13.Ne7+ Kh8 with equal chances.]

12...Qb6+ 13.Kh1 Qxb2 14.Rab1

[The same type of pawn-chasing fest as in the featured game Gretarsson-Vajda, but here Black has quite a good version with his knight poised to hop to the ready-made outpost on c5. The only game I have found with this idea was J.Ruiz Diez-R. Rodriguez Lopez, Ibercaja 1992, which continued 14.Nb5 Nc5 15.Rab1 Qxa2 16.h3 Nf6 17.Ra1 Qb3 18.Ra3 Nh5 19.Kh2 Qb2 20.Rb1 Qf6 and Black escaped to victory. The key issue is can White improve somewhere?]

14...Qa3 15.Rb3

[Instead 15.Nd5!? should be countered by Nc5! (here 15...e6? is actually bad in view of 16.Bb4 Qa4 17.Nc7 Rb8 18.Bxd6) 16.Nxe7+ Kh8 17.Bc2 Qxa2 18.Bb4 Be6 19.Nd5 Rac8 with an edge to Black, as shown by 20.Ng5 Bxd5 21.cxd5 f5 22.exf5 gxf5 .]

15...Qa5!

[Instead 15...Qc5?! 16.Nd5 Re8 17.e5 is uncomfortable for the second player.]

16.h3 Nh6 17.g4

[Or 17.Nd5 Qd8 when Black has more or less got away with his booty.]

17...f6

[Simpler than entering complications following 17...Nc5 18.Nd5 Qd8 19.g5 Bxh3 20.Rg1 .]

18.Nd5 Qd8 Black is fine. White has some vague play here, but is it really enough compensation? BEWARE! If, like me, you are not entirely happy with this gambit for White then I suggest that you try 10 a3!, which is a more sound and positional approach. The Pawns that Bind-A: 9...Nbd7

⁶¹ **10...Qh5** Mikhail Golubev: '!? ' Mikhail Golubev: '(a significant alternative' - Flear)' 11.h3

[if BEWARE! Here 11.0-0?! allows Black too much play following Ng4! when at the very least he will capture White's dark-squared bishop. However, if White now plays the naive 12.Bd2?? Black even wins on the spot with Nd4 .]
[11.--]

Mikhail Golubev: 'curious is the rare' 11...Qa5 Mikhail Golubev: '!?'

[instead, Flear analyses 11...Ng4 deeply

A) , and now White needs to retreat his bishop: 12.--;

B) Not that well known but probably quite good is 12.Bg1!? : for example, e5 (one always needs to take into account the fact that Black may be tempted to smash White's pawns with 12...Bxc3+ 13.bxc3 Qa5 , but in general if White has potential on the dark squares this is quite a risky approach for Black: for instance, after 14.Qd2 Nf6 15.Be3 Bd7 16.0-0 Rac8 17.Rab1 despite the ugly c-pawns I would have to prefer White due to his bishop-pair, kingside attacking potential and superior rooks) 13.0-0-0 Nf6 (13...Bh6 fails to 14.hxg4!) 14.g4 Nxg4 15.hxg4 Qxh1 16.Bh2 and Black lost his queen in E. Vegh-D.Gross, Budapest 1997.;

C) 12.Bd2 Nd4 (White should be better after the alternatives: 12...Nb4 13.Nd5! Nxd5 14.cxd5 Bxb2 15.Rb1 Ba3 16.Qf1 Nf6 17.g4 , as in J.Szily-E. Gereban, Budapest 1953; and after the 12...Nf6 13.0-0 Nd7 of P.Keres-D. Bronstein, Zürich 1953, White should continue with 14.Rac1 to maintain a pleasant edge)

C1) 13.-- White faces another choice;;

C2) 13.Nxd4! (all-in-all, my preference) Bxd4 14.Rf1 Qh4+ 15.Kd1 Nf2+ 16.Kc2 and now Black has to decide whether to simplify immediately or not:

C2a) 16...Qg3 17.Nd5! e6 (instead 17...Qxd3+ 18.Qxd3 Nxd3 19.Kxd3 Bxb2 actually drops a pawn: 20.Nxe7+ Kg7 21.Rab1 Bf6 22.Nxc8 Rfxc8 23.Rxb7) 18.Nc7 Rb8 19.Nb5 Bxb2 (the lesser evil is 19...Qxd3+ 20.Qxd3 Nxd3 21.Nxd4 Nc5 22.Rae1 , which limits White to a pleasant edge) 20.Rxf2! Bxa1 21.Rf1 and White was winning in C.Garcia Palermo-J.Candela Perez, Madrid 1994, because Bf6 allows 22.Be1 Qh2 23.Qf3 followed by Bg3 trapping Black's queen.;

C2b) 16...Nxd3 17.Qxd3 Bg7 18.Nd5 (18.f5!? gxf5 19.exf5 Bd7 20.Rae1 is promising too and the further moves Rac8 21.f6 Bxf6 22.Re4 Qh5 23.Rxf6 exf6 24.Nd5 Kg7 25.Nxf6 were certainly crushing in C. Garcia Palermo-L.Burijovich, Rosario 2001) 18...f5 19.Be1 fxe4 20.Qxe4 Qh5 21.g4 Qxh3 (if 21...Qh6 then 22.Nxe7+ Kh8 23.Bb4) 22.Nxe7+ Kh8 (22...Kf7 is hopeless: 23.Nxc8 Rfxc8 24.Qd5+) 23.Nxg6+ Kg8 24.Ne7+ Kh8 25.Rh1 Qxh1 26.Qxh1 was winning in G.Flear-M.Added, Marseille 2003.;

C2c) 16.--;

C3) 13.Qf1 (the main choice, but it's a moot point whether it's the best here) 13...Nxf3+ 14.Qxf3 Bd4 (14...Nf6 is met by 15.g4 , gaining space and time) 15.Ke2 Nf6 '!' (after 15...Nf2 16.Qxh5! gxh5 17.Rhf1 Nxd3 18.Kxd3 Bg7 19.Nd5 e6 20.Ne7+ Kh8 21.f5 , White was better in L.Seres-D.Karatossian, Budapest 2004)

C3a) 16.g4 Qc5 17.Nb5 Bxb2 (dangerous, but 17...Bd7 was unsatisfactory after 18.Nxd4 Qxd4 19.Bc3 in A.Schwartz-F.Rauch, correspondence 1954) 18.Rab1 and now Black might try to get away with

Bd4 (instead the 18...a6 19.Be3 Qb4 20.Nc7 Rb8 21.Ba7 of C.Schroeder-Merkies, correspondence 1988, is given as winning by Vegh and Zimmerman, but here b5! 22.cxb5 Rb7 just seems to be unclear), although after 19.a4! e5 20.Bb4 White has excellent compensation.;

C3b) note that if these complications prove too messy, White can settle for 16.Nb5 Qxf3+ (16...Bb6 17.Bc3 with a comfortable edge, as in H. Gretarsson-F.Handke, Velden 1996) 17.Kxf3 Bb6 18.Rhd1 Bd7 19.a4 a5 20.Bc3 Ne8 21.g4 Nc7 22.f5 Rfc8 23.f6 Nxb5 24.axb5 exf6 25.Bxf6 Be6 26.b3 Bc5 27.Kf4 h6 28.h4 b6 29.Bf1 Ra7 30.Rd2 Rca8 31.Rda2 Re8 32.Bg2 Kh7 33.g5 h5 34.Rd1 Bg4 35.Bf3 Bxf3 36.Kxf3 Raa8 37.Kf4 Re6 38.Rad2 Rae8 39.Re2 Kg8 40.e5 1-0 Pintor,M (2173)-Nieuwland,A (2236)/ICCF 2006/correspondence 2009]

Mikhail Golubev: 'after the critical' 12.0-0 Mikhail Golubev: 'White might have disliked'

[Mikhail Golubev: 'and Fridman-Nisipeanu, Bundesliga 2009, followed' 12.Rc1 Mikhail Golubev: '?!' Nh5 (D. Fridman - L. Nisipeanu, Germany 2009) Mikhail Golubev: '!' Mikhail Golubev: '(using the weakening of the g3 square)' 13.Kf2 Mikhail Golubev: 'has its own and quite obvious drawbacks' (13.Qf2 f5!N 14.exf5 Nb4 15.Bb1 Bxf5 16.0-0 Nd3 17.Bxd3 Bxd3 18.Rfe1 Bxc4 and Black won a pawn.) 13...e5 14.fxe5 f5!? 15.exf5 Bxf5 16.Bxf5 Rxf5 17.exd6 Nd4 18.Qd1 Nxf3 19.gxf3 Raf8= Black has sufficient compensation for material deficit.]

12...Nd7

[12...Nb4 13.Bb1 Nh5]

13.Rac1 Nc5 14.Bb1± White has a slight spatial advantage. V. Usachyi - C. Kratochwil, Giessen 1991

⁶² 11.Rc1 Bg4

[11...Rd8?! 12.0-0! Weiß läßt sich nicht beirren und setzt weiterhin auf Entwicklung Ng4 13.Bd2 Qb6+ 14.Kh1□ Bd7?! (Hier hätte Weiß m.e. die logische Konsequenz spielen müssen und zwar 14...Qxb2∞ mit unklarem Verlauf! Der Textzug wirkt etwas hilflos.....) 15.h3 Nf6 16.Be3 (Hier ist auch 16.b3 sehr gut spielbar) 16...Qa5 17.a3 Nh5 18.Qf2 Rac8 19.Rfd1 Es ist Zeit ein kleines Fazit der Stellung zu ziehen, nun ich denke Weiß ist im Vorteil allein aufgrund der schönen zentralen Bauern. Trotzdem hat Schwarz Möglichkeiten die ich nicht unterschätzen darf. b6 20.Be2! Weiß möchte im Zentrum aktiv werden.....das Feld d5 ist ein Augenschmaus für einen weißen ♘ aber auch e5 durchzusetzen ist wichtig! Nf6 21.e5 Ne8 Und jetzt? 22.b4! Natürlich.....Angriff auf die Dame und Weiß nutzt seine offenen Linien! Qxa3 (22...Qa6? 23.b5 Qb7+-) 23.b5 Die schwarze ♚ ist nun das Problem Nb4 24.Bd4 Bf5 Sieht hübsch aus für Schwarz...aber Weiß kontert nun 25.Ra1+- Ist allerdings auch das einzigste das Weiß im Vorteil läßt! Qb3 26.Rxa7 Rc7 (26...Rd7 27.Rxd7 Bxd7 28.Qe3+-) 27.Rxc7 Nxc7 28.Bxb6 Rd7 29.Bxc7 Rxc7 30.Qe3

Rc8 31.Nd5 Qxe3 32.Nxe3 Be6 33.exd6 exd6 Schließlich wird die Partie noch sehr ansehnlich, der offensichtliche Vorteil des weißen liegt am Damenflügel (Mehrbauer). Doch in der Folge sieht man herrliche Manöver.....
 34.Ng5 Bf8 35.Ne4 Bh6 36.g3 Ra8 37.Kg2 Bf8 38.Nxd6 Ra3 39.Ng4 Ra2 40.Nf6+ Kg7 41.Nfe8+ Kg8 42.Kf3 1-0 (42) Bellmann, H (2252)-Ax, P (2064) BdF 2009 Kommentierte Partien 2024 [Bellmann, Herbert (GER) SM] (Es könnte folgen 42.Kf3 Bxh3 in einer Nahschachpartie würde man sicherlich noch weiterspielen zu groß ist noch die eine oder andere taktische Hürde, im Fernschach, mit Unterstützung einer Engine "kein Problem" 43.c5 h5 44.Ke3 Ra3+ 45.Kf2 h4 46.gxh4 Be7 47.b6 Bxh4+ 48.Kg1 Nc6 49.b7 Nb8 50.Ne4 Bf5 51.Ng5 Kf8 52.Nc7 Rg3+ 53.Kh2 Rb3 54.Rd8+ Kg7 55.Ne8+ Kg8 56.Rxb8+-)]
 12.Qf2?!
 [12.0-0]
 12...Nb4
 [even better looks 12...Be6!? with the idea ...Ng4, and 13.h3 Nb4!]
 13.Bb1 Be6 14.Qe2 Rac8 15.Nd2?!
 [15.a3!]
 15...Ng4 16.Bg1 Qh5 17.h3 Qh4+ was awkward for White in Neuman, P (2471) - Vovk, A (2564) Slovakia 2012.

- ⁶³ **11...Ng4 '!'** A really controversial move as Black prepares to unashamedly pursue a policy of snatching the b-pawn. 12.Bd2 Qb6+ The consistent follow-up. However, Black has on occasion had second thoughts and decided to try something else:
- [a] 12...Nd4 13.Nxd4 Bxd4+ 14.Kh1 Qh5 15.h3 Nf6 16.Qxh5 Nxh5 17.Kh2 g5 was seen in H.Gretarsson-B.Asanov, Reykjavik 1993, and now Vegh and Zimmerman point out 18.g3! when White keeps his nose ahead: gxf4 19.gxf4 f5 and now I propose 20.Nd5! when White is better.]
 - [b] 12...Nb4 13.Nd5 Qc5+ 14.Kh1 Nxd5 (rather than 14...Nxd3 15.Qxd3 Nf2+ 16.Rxf2 Qxf2 17.Rf1 which is winning for White, H.May-J.Lunacek, correspondence 1964; evidently Black wasn't exactly on the ball, as this happened in a correspondence game!) 15.cxd5 Bd7 16.Rac1 Qb6 17.e5 , with some initiative, P.Keres-E.Gereban, Amsterdam 1954.]
 - [c] 12...f5 13.h3 Nh6 14.Rab1 fxe4 15.Bxe4 Nf5 16.Kh2 was also more pleasant for White in S.Johannessen-J.Durao, Havana 1966.]
- 13.Kh1 Qxb2 White has a slight lead in development and active-looking minor pieces, but he needs to find something concrete to justify his pawn sacrifice. Fortunately Black's adventurous queen is on hand as the most evident target for his attention. 14.Rab1
- [A surprising move is 14.Nb5 '!' which gives Black a difficult choice: a6 (14...--; 14...Qf6 (panicky, and asking for trouble) 15.h3 Nh6 16.e5 dxe5 17.fxe5 Qe6 18.Nc7 and Black had already lost material in P.Velvar-W.Preis, Cattolica 1993.; 14...Bd7 15.e5 dxe5 16.Rfb1 e4 17.Rxb2 exd3 18.Qf1 Bxb2 19.Re1 Rad8

20.h3 Nh6 21.Qxd3 Bg7 22.Qb3 Bc8 23.Bc3 Rd3 24.Qb2 and although Black has adequate material for the queen, the resulting position proved to be easier to play for White in R.Leitao-T.Shaked, Cala Galdana 1996.; 14...Qxa1 15.Rxa1 Bxa1 is tempting as Black obtains both rooks for the queen, but his remaining pieces are either undeveloped or poorly placed: 16.h3 Nh6 17.g4 Kh8 18.e5 dxe5 19.Qf1 Bb2 20.Qb1 Bd4 21.fxe5 and White won a piece in T.Scholbach-L. Kresz, correspondence 2000.) 15.Rfb1 Qf6 (better than 15...Qxa1 16.Rxa1 Bxa1 17.Nc7 Ra7 18.h3 b6 19.Nd5 Nf6 20.Qd1 Bd4 21.Nxd4 Nxd4 22.Nxf6+ exf6 23.Qa1 , as in Y.Zimmerman-A.Sharafiev, Sochi 2004) 16.Nc7

A) 16...Rb8 17.h3 e6! (improving over 17...Nh6 18.e5 dxe5 19.fxe5 Nxe5 20.Nd5 Qd6 21.Nxe5 Bxe5 22.Bxh6 where White was well on top in P.Velvar-Z.Rajcsanyi, Hungary 1993) 18.hxg4 Qd8 19.Nxa6 bxa6 20.Rxb8 Nxb8 21.Rb1 Nd7 , as given by Vegh and Zimmerman, offers more or less balanced chances.;

B) 16...Nd4 17.Qf1 (17.Nxd4 Qxd4 18.Be1 Rb8 19.h3 Nf6 20.Bf2 Qc3 21.Ba7 Bd7 22.Bxb8 Rxb8 Black has the initiative. P. Bjazevic - M. Pintor, corr. 2007) 17...Rb8 18.Nd5 Qe6 19.Qg1 Nc6 20.h3 Nf6 21.Bc3 Qd7 22.Rb3 Qd8 23.Nxf6+ Bxf6 24.Bxf6 exf6 25.Rab1 Qc7 26.Rb6 Be6= White has sufficient compensation for material deficit.]

14...Qa3 However, the text isn't White's only promising move as Gretaarsen was successful against Vajda with 15.h3! '!' in our second illustrative game.

[15.Nb5

A) 15...Qxa2

A1) 16.e5?! dxe5 17.Nc7 (17.Ra1 Qxa1 18.Rxa1 e4 should give Black plenty of wood for the queen) 17...Rb8 18.h3 Nh6 19.Ra1 Qxa1! 20.Rxa1 e4 21.Re1 Nf5 22.Kg1 exd3 23.Qxd3 Rd8 Black has more than adequate compensation for material deficit. Shredder 8 - Fritz 8, Internet (blitz) 2004;

A2) 16.h3 Nf6± - 15. h3 Nf6 16. Nb5 Qxa2;

B) a) 15...Qa4 16.Rb3! a6 17.Ra3 axb5 18.Rxa4 bxa4 19.h3 Nf6 20.e5!? dxe5 21.fxe5 Ne8 22.Bc3 and White was better and went on to win in R.Leitao-F.Peralta, Laguna 1996.;

C) 15...Qc5 Not the only square. 16.h3

C1) 16...Qh5?! (G. Flear - T. Likavsky, Saint Vincent 2002) 17.Nc7 (17.Qe1 Nf6 18.Nh2 Ne8 19.f5 Bh6 20.Ng4 Bxd2 21.Qxd2 Ne5 22.Nxe5 dxe5 23.Qb4 Qg5 24.Qc5 Bd7 25.Qxe5 We've followed G.Flear-T.Likavsky, St Vincent 2002, and by now White was definitely better and went on to win. During the game I felt that I always had adequate compensation, but when my opponent resigned he was upset about the turn of events as he felt that Black had actually stood better! This goes to show that it often comes down to a question of taste in these lines, as it can be tough to judge whether White really has enough or more than enough compensation. The Pawns that Bind-C1: 11...Ng4) 17...Rb8 18.Rb5 e5 19.Nd5 a6 20.Rbb1 Re8 21.Kg1 Nf6

22.Qf2± White has more than adequate compensation for material deficit.;
C2) After 16...Nf6 , as mentioned in the notes to Gretarsson-Vajda, White can continue with 17.g4 when Nxg4 18.hxg4 Bxg4 19.Qh2! probably favours him.;

C3) 16...a6 17.Nc3 Nf6 18.Nd5 Qa3 19.Be1 Nd7 20.Rb3 Qc5 21.Bh4= White has sufficient compensation for material deficit. The position is objectively equal, although a touch more comfortable for White. J. Jordan - R. Delgado, corr. 2012]

[Instead after the 15.Rb3 Qa5 16.h3 Nf6 17.Qf2 Qd8 18.Rd1 Nd7 19.Be3 of M.Vokac-V.Babula, Luhacovice 1993, Black could solidify his shell-like position with b6 .]

15...Nf6

[15...Bxc3 16.Rb3 Qxa2 17.Rxc3 Nf6 18.Qe3 Bd7 19.Rb1± White has more than adequate compensation for material deficit.]

16.Nb5 Qxa2 Trajko Nedev: '±' Trajko Nedev: '-' 15. h3 Nf6 16. Nb5 Qxa2' stronger than 17.Ra1

[17.g4 '!' Nd7 18.e5 dxe5 19.Ra1 Qxa1 (19...Qb2 20.Rfb1 e4 21.Rxb2 exd3 22.Qxd3 Bxb2 23.Rb1 Bg7 with chances for both sides.) 20.Rxa1 e4 21.Bc3 (P. Daus - N. Wallach, corr. 2005) exd3 22.Qxd3 b6 23.Bxg7 Kxg7 24.Nc7 Rb8 25.Nd4 Nc5 26.Qc3 Nxd4 27.Qxd4+ Kg8 28.Rxa7 e6 29.f5 Bb7+ 30.Kh2 Rbd8 31.Qb2 Rd6= The chances are roughly equal, though better players should feel more comfortable.]

[while after 17.e5?! (B. Khanukov - A. Stuerzenbaum, Dresden 2007) Nh5 (17...dxe5 18.Ra1 Qb2 19.Rfb1 Qxa1 20.Rxa1 e4 Black had enough for the queen in B.Khanukov-A.Stuerzenbaum, Dresden 2007) 18.Qf2 Nxf4! 19.Bxf4 Qxf2 20.Rxf2 dxe5 21.Nc7 Rb8 22.Bh2 Rd8± Black has more than adequate compensation for material deficit.]

17...Qb2 18.g4

[18.Rfb1 , which is well met by Nh5 19.Qe1 Qf6 20.Nc7 Rb8 21.Nd5 Qe6 ,]

18...Nxg4!? 19.hxg4 Bxg4 20.Rab1 Qa2 (Rybka 3 Dynamic - Rybka 3, Internet 2009) 21.Qg2 h5 22.Rf2 a6 23.Be1 Qa4 24.Nc3 Bxc3 25.Bxc3 Qa3

26.Rc2± White has the initiative.

11...--

⁶⁴ **12.Bb1** Ng4 13.Bd2 Be6 14.Kh1 Qa6 15.b3 Rac8 16.h3 Nf6 17.f5

[17.Qf2 offers a safe edge]

17...Nh5 18.Qf2 Bxc4 19.bxc4 Rxc4 20.e5 dxe5 21.a3 e4∞ 1/2 Conquest,S (2490)-Seredenko,V (2370)/Alma-Ata 1989/EXT 1997 (57) 22.Bxe4 Qd6

was the sharp course of S.Conquest-V.Seredenko, Alma Ata 1989, and now

23.axb4! would have been promising: for example, 23...Ng3+ 24.Kg1 Nxf1 25.Rxf1 Bxc3 26.Bxc3 Rxc3 27.fxg6 when 27...fxg6

[27...hxg6? gets hit by 28.Ng5!]

28.Qxa7 offers White a clear advantage.

12.h3 Nh5 13.Qd2 Nxd3 14.Qxd3 f5 15.Rfe1 fxe4 16.Qxe4 Qf5 17.Qxf5 gxf5 18.Bd4± 1-0 Levin,E (2465)-Kuzubov,Y (2630)/St Petersburg 2011/CBM 143 Extra (34)

⁶⁵ **13.Qxd3** Ng4

[13...Be6

A) 14.Kh1 Rfc8 15.Nd2

A1) 15...Ng4 16.Bg1 (16.Bd4 Bxd4 17.Qxd4 Qc5 18.Qxc5 dxc5 19.Nd5 Kf8=) 16...Bxc3 17.bxc3 (I. Sokolov - I. Papaioannou, Porto Carras 2011) Qc7 18.Qf3 Nf6 19.Bd4 Bxc4 20.Nxc4 Qxc4 21.e5 dxe5 22.fxe5 Ne8 23.Qxb7

A1a) 23...Nc7 24.Rab1 Qe6 25.Bxa7 Qxe5 (25...Nd5!? 26.c4 Nc3 27.Rbc1 Ne4 28.Qxe4 Rxa7) 26.Rfe1 (26.a4!?) 26...Qd6 27.a4 Nd5

A1a1) 28.a5 Qc6 (28...Nxc3?! 29.Rbc1) 29.Rec1∞;

A1a2) 28.Red1?! After this move Black obtains a good position with major pieces on the board. 28...Qc7 29.Rxd5 Rxa7 30.Qb4 e6 (30...Qxc3?? 31.Rd8+ Kg7 32.Rxc8 Qxc8 33.Qd4+; 30...Rca8!? 31.Ra1 Rb8↑) 31.Rd3 Qa5 (31...Rca8!? 32.Ra1 Ra5) 32.Qxa5 Rxa5 33.Rb4 Rac5 34.Rb3 Ra8 35.Rb4 Rac8 36.Rb3 e5

Black starts playing for a win but White's defensive resources should be sufficient. 37.Kg1 e4 38.Rd4 Re8 (38...e3 39.Re4 Rxc3 40.Rxe3=; 38...Rxc3=) 39.Kf2 e3+ 40.Ke1 Kg7 41.Ra3 Ra5 42.c4 Rea8 43.Ke2 Rxa4 44.Rxa4 Rxa4 45.Kxe3= Kf6 46.h4 Ra1 47.Re4 h5 48.c5 Re1+? Suddenly Black gets an idea to make a draw in the pawn endgame, which, however, proves lost! He had no problems after, say, (48...Kf5 49.Rc4 Ke5 50.c6 Ra8; 48...Rd1 , cutting off White's king, was possible, too.) 49.Kd4 Rxe4+? Of course, it is now unclear whether Black can survive after (49...Rd1+ 50.Kc4; or 49...Rg1 50.Re2) but in any case that was better than the text. 50.Kxe4 A similar ending (with reversed colours) could have arisen in M.Gurevich-Krasenkow (Jakarta 1996 - see CBM 56, annotation to move 57 of that game). GM Ivan Sokolov took part in that tournament and probably saw that game! Ke6 51.Kd4 f6 52.Ke4

A1a21) 52...g5 53.hxg5 (53.g4 is also possible) 53...fxg5 54.c6 Kd6 55.Kf5+-;

A1a22) 52...Kd7 53.Kd5 g5 54.hxg5 1-0 (54) Sokolov,I (2646)-Papaioannou,I (2600) Porto Carras 2011 CBM 146 [Krasenkow, Michal] (54.hxg5 fxg5 55.Ke5+-);

A1b) 23...Qe6= The chances are roughly equal, though better players should feel more comfortable.;

A2) 15...Qa6 16.b3 d5 17.exd5 Rd8 18.Qe2 Nxd5 19.cxd5 Bxc3 20.Qxa6 bxa6 21.dxe6 Bxd2 22.exf7+ Kxf7= Equal chances, quiet position.;

B) 14.Bd4 (D. Carter - B. Sambuev, Montreal 2011) Krasenkow, Michal: 'looks more natural, e.g.' 14...Rac8 15.b3 Rfe8 (15...Nd7 16.Qe3±) 16.Nd2 Bd7 17.f5± White has a slight spatial advantage.]

14.b4 Qd8 15.Rad1 Nxe3 16.Qxe3 Be6= White has a slight spatial advantage. Black has a pair of bishops.

⁶⁶ a) After **10...Qh5** 11.0-0 Nc6 12.h3 0.00 transposes to note 'a' to Black's 10th move in Line 12...Bxf3 13.Rxf3 Nd7 White plays 14.Qf2 which denies Black access to the d4-square. Then 14...Qa5

[no one has tried Konikowski and Soszynski's suggestion of 14...Bxc3 15.bxc3 Qa5 , as the bishop-pair and dark squares are deemed by everyone else to be more important factors than White's compromised structure]

15.Rc1 Nc5 16.Bb1 Rac8 17.Nd5 Qd8 18.e5 b6 19.b4 Nd7 20.exd6 exd6

21.f5 was the continuation of H.Gretarsson-C.Hoi, Copenhagen 1997, when White had a pleasant initiative.

b) **10...Qc8** 11.0-0 Nc6 12.Rac1 Nd7 13.Qf2 Nc5 14.Bb1 b6 15.Rfd1 Qb7 and despite Black's solidity, White retained control in S.Dittman-B.Koch, Erfurt 1955.

c) **10...Bxf3** 11.Qxf3 Qa5 12.0-0 Nc6 13.Rac1 Nd7 , as in I.Sokolov-D. Reinderman, Wijk aan Zee 1999, is similar to the main line except that here White doesn't have any broken pawns. Now 14.Qf2 is recommended, keeping control of d4.

⁶⁷ **11...Nbd7** 12.Rac1 a6

[Instead 12...Bxf3 13.gxf3 Rfe8 14.Rfd1 Nh5 15.Qd2 Bh6 16.Bf1 Nc5 17.Rb1 Qb4 18.a3 Qb3 19.Nd5 Rac8 20.Rdc1 e6 21.Nc3 was seen in Y.Zimmerman-M.Orso, Hungary 1998, with an edge to White, although Black would have been just about okay if he had played e5! .]

13.Kh1 Rfc8 14.Qd2 Bxf3 15.Rxf3 b5 16.cxb5 axb5 17.Nxb5 Qxa2 18.Bd4

We've followed the game S.Talavera Rodriguez-E.Gufeld, Seville 1987, in which again White had a pull. The Pawns that Bind-B: 9...Bg4

⁶⁸ White got the better of matters after DANGEROUS WEAPON! Finally, we should note that **12...Rac8** ChessPublishing.com: 'Topalov,V-Sherzer,A/New York 1994' Vigorito, D: 'for' 13.Rfd1 Vigorito, D: 'see Topalov, V-Sherzer, A New York 1994'

[13.h3 a bit surprising, as Black often takes on f3 voluntarily Bxf3 14.Qxf3 Nd7 15.Qf2 Nb4 16.Bb1 (16.Be2 Nc5±) 16...Rxc4 17.Nd5 Rxc1 (17...Nxd5! 18.Rxc4 Nxe3 19.Qxe3 Bxb2) 18.Nxe7+ Kh8 19.Rxc1 Nxa2 20.Rd1 Re8 21.Nd5± with an initiative for the pawn in Flear, G (2481)-Farid, F (2338) Hastings 2013]

13...Nh5 in Topalov, V - Sherzer, A New York 1998 (see the archives). 14.Bb1 Bh6 15.h3 Be6 16.Nd5 Bxd5 17.Rxd5 Qa6 18.Rxh5! (an excellent exchange sacrifice)

18...gxf3 19.Nh4 offered White a strong attack in V.Topalov-A.Sherzer, New York 1994.

The most common move by far is **12...Nd7** which was Kasparov's choice many years ago. "Other plans are inferior" according to Konikowski & Soszynski who wrote a book on the Four Pawns in 2005. The main line now continues with

13.Qf2

[13.Bb1 Bd4 14.Nd5 Bxe3+ 15.Qxe3 Qc5 Deep Fritz 8 - Zappa Mexico, Internet 2007]

13...Bxf3

[a] Play could proceed as in the main line with 13...Nc5 14.Bb1 Na4 15.Nxa4 Qxa4 16.Rfd1 Rfc8 (after 16...Qb4 17.Rd2 I can't see any serious alternative to a plan involving an exchange on f3 Bxf3 18.gxf3 heads back into a variation (note 'c' to Black's 17th move) of Line C2 which I consider to be promising for White.) 17.b3 Qa3 18.c5 Bxf3 (finally!) 19.gxf3 (19.Qxf3? Nd4!) 19...dxc5 20.Bxc5 Qb2 21.Qxb2 Bxb2 22.Rc2 , leading to a small endgame edge which Black managed to neutralize in M.Kazhgaleyev-O.Sepp, Istanbul Olympiad 2000.]

[b] Any rook move such as 13...Rfc8 can be met by normal moves such as

A) but here an interesting idea is 14.Nd2!? , leaving Black's bishop in mid-air: Nc5 15.Bb1 Nb4?! (15...Qb4! must be critical) 16.Qh4 Bd7 17.Qxe7 and White was clearly on top in D.Hausrath-W.Uhlmann, German League 1997.;

B) 14.Rfd1 or 14 Bb1,]

14.gxf3

[14.Qxf3 has been played but isn't very convincing: Bxc3 15.Rxc3 Qxa2 16.Qf2 Qa5 17.g4 f6 18.Kg2 (V.Usachyi-E.Kostesky, correspondence 1985), and White has no real compensation after Nc5 .]

14...Nc5 15.Bb1 Bellmann,Herbert(GER)SM: '= ' 15...Na4

[a] 15...Rac8 16.Rfd1 a6 17.Kh1 (or the more direct 17.Nd5!) 17...Rfe8 18.a3 Nb3 19.Rd5 Qc7 20.Rcd1 Nc5 21.e5 Ne6 22.f5 and Black didn't last much longer in M.Vokac-U.Kaminski, German League 1992.]

[b] 15...Ne6 16.Nd5 Rfe8 17.Kh1 Qd8 18.b4 b6 19.Bc2 Rc8 20.Ba4 obviously left White well on top in Zhaoqin Peng-Z.Nikolin, Kishnev 1995.]

[c] 15...f5 16.Kh1 (White anticipates the opening of the g-file) Na4 17.Nxa4 Qxa4 18.exf5 gxf5 19.Rg1 Rf7 20.Rg5 e6 21.Rcg1 Kh8 22.Qg2 Rg8 was seen in Y.Zimmerman-A.Pugachev, Budapest 1992, and now White should have played 23.b3 Qa5 24.Bd2 Qd8 25.Bc3 Qf8 26.Qe2 , as suggested by Vegh and Zimmerman, although then Qc8 keeps White's advantage within manageable bounds.]

[d] 15...Qb4 16.Rfd1 Qxc4 (another pawn grab, but this one is highly risky!) 17.Nd5 Qa4 and now White must decide on the best way to continue:

A) 18.e5?! b6?! (both 18...Na6; and 18...Ne6! are preferable) 19.b4 Nxb4 20.Nxe7+ Kh8 21.exd6 f5 22.Bd4 by now favoured White in R.Cifuentes-L. Van Wely, Dutch League 1995.;

B) 18.b3 Qa3 (18...Qa5 19.b4 Nxb4 20.Nxe7+ Kh8 21.Rxd6 Ne6 22.f5! was dangerous for Black in Y.Zimmerman-I.Borocz, Nagykanizsa 1992) 19.e5 is suggested by Vegh and Zimmerman, but this is messy if we compare it to our last variation.;

C) 18.b4! seems best, and after Nxb4 19.Nxe7+ Kh8 20.Rxd6 Ne6 21.f5 White is the favourite.;

D) 18.--]

16.Nxa4

[16.Nd1 hasn't been played in recent years but scores quite well, the idea being to avoid exchanging pieces off for now:

A) 16...Rfc8 17.a3 Qh5 (or more recently 17...e6 18.b4 Qd8 19.Kh1 a5 20.b5 Nb8 21.f5 Nd7 22.fxe6 fxe6 23.f4 Qe7 24.Qg2 Rf8 when Black was quite solid in S.Swapnil-P.Shetty, Nagpur 2008) 18.b4 a5 19.b5 Nb8 20.Kh1 Nd7 21.Bd3 Ndc5 22.Be2 Ne6 (22...Nb2!? is interesting: for example, 23.Rc2 Nbd3 24.Qg3 f5 25.Nc3 e6 looks about equal) 23.f5 gxf5 24.f4 Qh3 25.Rg1 Nac5 26.Nc3 Kh8 27.exf5 Qxf5 28.Bg4 Qd3 29.Nd5 f5!

(rather than the 29...Re8? 30.f5 of C.Gabriel-E.Relange, Pula 1997, when Black was struggling) 30.Rgd1 Qxa3 31.Bxf5 Rf8 isn't clear. Thus 16 Nd1 is interesting but not necessarily favourable for White.;

B) 16...Nc5 17.Kh1 Rac8 18.Nc3 Na4 19.Nxa4 Qxa4 20.b3 Qa6 21.Rg1 e5 22.f5 Bf6 23.h4 Kh8 24.Bg5 Bd8 25.Rg3 White had continuing pressure in C.Gabriel-L.Van Wely, Horgen 1995;

C) 16...Rac8 17.Kh1 (Black has tried several moves here, but White has obtained an impressive score +6=2-0!) Qd8 18.Rg1 e6 19.b3 Nc5 20.Nc3 b6 21.f5!↑ for example, panned out in White's favour in Gabriel, C - Gallagher, J Swiss league 2006]

16...Qxa4 17.Rfd1

[White sometimes flicks in 17.b3 first, but this rather commits him to staying with this a2, b3 and c4 pawn-chain, whereas Gretaarsen has shown that it can be advantageous to expand with a3 and b4. Moreover, after Qa3 (possible is 17...Qa5 , but L.Seres-A.Lukin, Budapest 2004, demonstrated a positive plan for White: 18.Rfd1 Rfd8 19.Kh1 Qc7 20.Rg1 e6 21.f5 with the initiative)

A) 18.c5 dxc5

A1) 19.Rxc5 Rfd8 (19...e5 20.fxe5 Nxe5 21.Rd5 Rfd8! 22.Rfd1 Rxd5 23.Rxd5 Rc8 24.Kg2 b6 25.Qe2±) 20.e5 Nb4± Δ ♖d3;

A2) 19.e5? b6 20.Rc4 Nb4±;

A3) 19.Bxc5 Stoica,Valentin: 'Ü 60/550' 19...Qxc5! 20.Rxc5 Bd4

White had nothing much in V.Topalov-G.Kasparov, Linares 1994, as 21.Rd1 (21.Qxd4 Nxd4 22.Rc7 is met by Ne2+ , etc.) 21...Bxf2+ 22.Kxf2 Rfd8= Equal chances, quiet position. V. Topalov - G. Kasparov, Linares 1994;

B) or 18.Kh1

B1) 18...a5 19.c5 a4 20.cxd6 exd6 21.bxa4

B1a) 21...Rxa4 22.Rcd1 (22.Bc2 Rb4 23.Bb3 Nd4=) 22...Rc4

(22...Rb4 23.Rd3 Qa4 24.Rxd6 Rb2 25.Qg1! Na5 26.e5 Nc4 27.Rd4 b5 28.Bf2± ΔQa8 29.Be4 Qxa2?! 30.Ra1 Qb3 31.Rd3 Qc2 32.Bc5±) 23.f5!/? (23.Rd3 Rc3 24.Rfd1 Na5 25.Rxc3 Bxc3 26.Bd3 Rc8 27.Qe2 Bb2!/? 28.f5 Bc1 29.Bf2 Bf4 30.Kg2 Rc3≠) 23...Ne5 24.Bc1 (24.Bg5 Rc3) 24...Qc5 (24...Qb4 25.Bg5 Rfc8 26.f4 Ng4 27.Qf3±) 25.Qxc5 dxc5 26.f4 Nc6 (26...Ng4 27.e5 Rb4 28.Bd3 Ra8 29.fxg6 hxg6 30.Be2 Nh6 31.a3±) 27.Rd7 Rb4 28.Ba3 Rb5 29.e5 ΔRd8 30.Rc7 Bf8 (30...Rd2 31.fxg6 hxg6 32.e6) 31.Be4±;

B1b) 21...Rfc8!/? Δ22.Rcd1 Na5 23.Rd3 Qxa4 24.Rxd6 Nc4≠;

B2) 18...Rfd8!/? 19.Rcd1 (19.f5 a5 20.f4 a4 21.fxg6 fxg6 22.f5 axb3 23.axb3 Rf8∞) 19...a5 20.Rd5 (20.Bc1 Qb4 21.Bd2= Bc3? 22.a3!±) 20...a4

B2a) 21.Bc1 Qb4 22.Rb5 (22.Bd2=) 22...Qc3 23.Bd2 (23.Rxb7 axb3 24.axb3 Rdb8!≠) 23...Qb2 24.Be3 (24.Rxb7 Rdb8≠) 24...axb3 25.axb3 Qxf2 26.Bxf2 Bd4!/? 27.Rxb7 Rdb8≡;

B2b) 21.Rb5 axb3 22.axb3 Rd7 23.f5 Na7 (23...Qa1 24.e5!; 23...Ra5 24.f4! Rxb5 25.cxb5 Nb4 26.fxg6 hxg6 27.f5↑) 24.Rb6 Nc8 25.Rb5 Na7 26.Rd5 Nc6 (26...Qxb3? 27.Ra5±) 27.fxg6 hxg6 28.Rb5 Na7=;

B3) 18...b6

B3a) 19.h4 a5!≠;

B3b) 19.f5 a5! (19...Qb2 20.Rcd1 Stoica,Valentin: '!/?' Qxf2 21.Rxf2 Bc3 22.a3!/? Stoica,Valentin: '±' Rfc8 23.Kg2± Δ f4, ♕f3) 20.Bxb6 a4≠;

B3c) 19.Rcd1

B3c1) 19...a5

B3c11) 20.Rd5 a4 21.Bc1 (21.Rb5 axb3 22.axb3 Bc3! 23.Rxb6 Nb4≡) 21...Qb4 22.Rb5 Bd4! (22...Qc3? 23.e5!±) 23.Rxb4 Bxf2 24.Rxa4 Rxa4 25.bxa4 Bc5≡;

B3c12) 20.e5! a4 (20...dxe5 21.Be4 Rac8 22.Bxb6 exf4 23.Bc5±) 21.Be4 Rfc8 22.exd6 exd6 23.Bxb6 axb3 24.axb3 Qxb3 (24...Rab8 25.Rb1±) 25.Rxd6 Ra2 26.Qe3±;

B3c2) 19...Rfd8 20.f5± Δ ♖g1;

B3c3) 19...Qb2 20.Rd2 (20.f5!/? Qxf2 21.Rxf2 Bc3 22.a3±) 20...Qc3 21.f5 Kh8 22.Rg1± Δ f4;

B3c4) 19...Bc3!/?N 20.Bc1 Qc5 21.Be3 Qa3

B3c41) 22.f5!/? Qb2 (22...Bb4 23.Qh4↑; 22...Rac8 23.f4 Δ ♖g1) 23.Qg1 Bb4 24.f4 Kh8 (24...Qg7 25.e5! dxe5 26.fxg6 hxg6 27.f5→) 25.e5↑;

B3c42) 22.Rd5 Qb2 23.Qg1

B3c421) 23...Rac8!/? 24.Rf2

B3c4211) 24...Qa1 25.Rd1 Bg7 (25...Bd4? 26.Bxd4 Nxd4 27.e5 Qc3 28.Rd3 Qa1 29.a3 Qxa3 30.Ra2 Qb4

31.Qxd4+-) 26.e5 Qc3 27.Rc2 Qb4 28.exd6 exd6 29.Rcd2±;

B3c4212) 24...Qa3 25.e5!/? (25.f5 Kh8∞)

B3c42121) 25...Nb4 26.Rd1 dxe5 27.f5 e4 (27...Kh8
28.fxg6 fxg6 29.Bxg6! Rg8 30.Rg2±) 28.fxg6 hxg6
29.Bxe4 Bg7 30.Rg2↑;

B3c42122) 25...dxe5 26.f5 e6 (26...Kg7 27.Rg2→) 27.fxe6
fxe6 28.Rd7 Rf7 29.Qg4 Qf8! (29...Rd8 30.Rxf7 Kxf7
31.Qh3 Rd1+ 32.Kg2 Kg7 33.Bh6+ Kf7 34.Bg5→; 29...Nd4
30.Rxf7 Kxf7 31.Qh3 Kg7 32.Rg2→) 30.Qxe6 Qe8
31.Qxf7+ Qxf7 32.Rxf7 Kxf7 33.f4 Bd4 34.fxe5+ Ke6
35.Rf6+ Kxe5 36.Bg5 h6 37.Bh4 g5 38.Rf5+ Ke6=;

B3c422) 23...Bb4 24.e5! (24.Rf2 Qg7 Δ ♗c5)

B3c4221) 24...Rad8 25.Be4! Qxa2 26.e6! (26.exd6 exd6
27.f5 Ne7 28.Rd3 Bc5 29.f6 Nc8 30.Qg5 Qb2!∞)

B3c42211) 26...Bc5 27.exf7+ Rxf7 28.f5 Rg7 (28...Ne5?
29.Bxc5 bxc5 30.f4+-) 29.fxg6 Ne5 30.Bxc5 bxc5 31.f4
Nxc6 32.Rg5±;

B3c42212) 26...f5 27.Rxf5 Rxf5 28.Bxf5 Bc3 29.Be4
Rc8 30.f5↑;

B3c4222) 24...dxe5 25.f5

B3c42221) 25...Kh8 26.fxg6 fxg6 (26...hxg6 27.Qg5+-)
27.Bxg6! Rg8 28.Rf2 Qc3 29.Bd2 Rxg6 30.Qb1! Bc5
31.Bxc3 Bxf2 32.Qf1 Rg1+ 33.Qxg1 Bxg1 34.Kxg1±;

B3c42222) 25...Kg7 26.Be4! Qxa2 27.Rb5 Qxb3 28.Bxc6
Qxc4 29.Rc1 Bc3 30.Bxa8 Qxb5 31.Be4 Bb2 32.Rc7±;

B3c42223) 25...e6 26.fxe6

B3c422231) 26...f5 27.Rf2! Qc3 (27...Qa3 28.Rg2 Ne7
29.Bc1±; 27...Qa1 28.Rd1 Rad8 29.Bd3±) 28.Bd2 Qa1
29.Bxb4 Nxb4 30.e7±;

B3c422232) 26...fxe6 27.Rb5! (27.Rd7 Rf7 28.Rxf7
Kxf7 29.f4 Rf8) 27...Bd2 (27...Bc5 28.Bxc5 bxc5
29.Bxg6+-) 28.Bxd2 Qxd2 29.Bxg6 Kh8 30.Be4±;

B3c4223) 24...Bc5 25.Be4 Nb4 26.Bxc5

B3c42231) 26...dxc5

B3c422311) 27.Rf2?! Qc3! (27...Qa3 28.Rd7 Rad8
29.Rxe7 Nd3 30.Bxd3 Rxd3 31.f5±) 28.Rd7 Rad8
29.Rxe7 Nd3 30.Bxd3 Rxd3 (30...Qxd3!? (Δ ♖e3)
31.Qe1 Qf5 32.Rxa7 Rfe8!∞) 31.Qg4 Rd2=;

B3c422312) 27.Rd7 Rae8 (27...Rad8 28.Rxe7 Nd3
29.f5±) 28.Rf2 Qc3 29.a3 Na6 30.Rxa7±;

B3c42232) 26...bxc5 27.Rf2 Qc3 (27...Qa3 28.Rd1 Rad8
29.Rfd2 Qa5 30.f5!±) 28.Rd1 Rad8 29.Rfd2±;

B3c4224) 24...e6 25.Rf2 (25.Rb5 Bc5∞)

B3c42241) 25...Qc3 26.Rd3 Qe1 (26...Qa1 27.Rd1+-)
27.Qxe1 Bxe1 28.Rf1 Bb4 29.exd6 Rfd8 30.Rfd1 Rd7

31.Bc1 Rad8 32.a3 Bxd6 33.b4 Kf8 (33...Nb8 34.f5±)
34.c5 bxc5 35.bxc5 Rb7 36.cxd6 Rxb1 37.f5±;

B3c42242) 25...Qa3 26.Bc1 Qa6

B3c422421) 27.Rd1

B3c4224211) 27...dxe5 28.Be4 Rac8 (28...Qb7
29.fxe5 Bc5 30.Bg5!∞) 29.fxe5 Nxe5 30.Bb2±;

B3c4224212) 27...Rad8! 28.Be4 Qc8 29.exd6 Rxd6
30.Rxd6 Bxd6 31.Be3 Qc7±;

B3c422422) 27.Rxd6!

B3c4224221) 27...Rac8!? 28.Rd3 (28.Be4 Bxd6
29.exd6 Rfd8 30.Rd2 Qa5∞ Δ31.d7?! Rc7±) 28...Bc5
29.Be3 Nb4 30.Rc3 Bxe3 (30...Rfd8 31.Bxc5 bxc5
32.f5±) 31.Rxe3 Qa5 32.f5 exf5 33.Bxf5 Rc5±;

B3c4224222) 27...Bxd6 28.exd6

B3c42242221) 28...Qb7 29.Rd2 Rad8 30.Bb2 Qb8
31.Qd1±;

B3c42242222) 28...Rad8!? 29.Rd2 Qa5 (29...Qc8
30.Bb2 Qb8 31.Qd1 f6 32.h4! Rd7 33.h5±) 30.Be4
(30.d7? Nb8±) 30...Nb8 31.Qd4 Qc5 32.Qe5 Nd7
33.Qc3 b5 34.Bb2 f6∞;

B3c42242223) 28...Rfd8 29.Rd2±

B3c422422231) 29...Rd7

B3c4224222311) 30.f5!? Qa5 (30...Rad8
31.fxg6 fxg6 32.Bxg6! Rg7 33.Rg2 hxg6
34.Rxg6 Qb7 35.Bh6 Rdd7 36.Bxg7 Rxg7
37.Qg4 Nd8 38.h4±) 31.fxe6 fxe6 32.Qe3 Ne5
(32...Qe5 33.Be4±) 33.Bb2 Nf7 34.f4±;

B3c4224222312) 30.Be4 Rad8! (30...Rc8?!
31.Bb2 Qa5 32.Qe3±)

B3c42242223121) 31.Bxc6 Rxd6 32.Rxd6
Rxd6

B3c422422231211) 33.Ba4 Qa5! 34.Kg2
(34.Bb2? Qh5) 34...Qc3 35.Kg3 h5∞;

B3c422422231212) 33.f5 Qxa2
(33...Rxc6? 34.Qd4 e5 35.Qxe5 Qc8
36.Bh6 f6 37.Qd5+ Kh8 38.Qf7±) 34.Bf4
Rxc6 35.Qd4 Qb1+ 36.Kg2 Qc2+
(36...Qxf5? 37.Bh6+-) 37.Kg3 exf5□
38.Qd8+ Kg7 39.Be5+ f6 40.Qe7+ Kh6
41.Bf4+ g5 42.Qf8+=;

B3c42242223122) 31.Qd1!

B3c422422231221) 31...Na5 32.Bb2 Nb7
33.Qc1! (33.Bf6 Rc8 34.f5! Nc5 35.fxg6

*fxg6 36.Qc2±) 33...Rxd6 34.Qc3 e5
35.Rxd6 Rxd6 36.Qxe5 Rd1+ 37.Kg2
Rd2+ 38.Kg3 Rxb2 39.Qxb2 Nd6
40.Bd3±;*

B3c422422231222) 31...Nb8 32.f5 Qa5
*33.fxe6 (33.Bb2 exf5 34.Rd5 Rxd6!
35.Rxd6 Rxd6 36.Qxd6 Qe1+=) 33...fxe6
34.Bb2 Qb4 35.Be5±;*

B3c422422232) 29...Qa5?

B3c4224222321) 30.d7! *Rab8 (30...e5 31.Be4
Nd4 32.fxe5 Ne6 33.Bxa8 Rxa8 34.Qf2 Rd8
35.Rd5+-) 31.Be4 Ne7 (31...Nb4 32.Bb2 Qc5
33.Be5+-) 32.Qd4 Qc5 (32...Nf5 33.Qf6+-)
33.Qf6 Nd5 (33...Qe3 34.Rd1+-) 34.Bxd5
(34.Qe5 Qc7 35.Bb2 Qxe5 36.Bxe5+-)
34...Qe3 35.Bb2! Qe1+ 36.Kg2 Qxd2+
37.Kh3+-;*

B3c4224222322) 30.Be4? *Rac8*

Stoica,Valentin: '∞'

B3c42242223221) 31.Qg5 Qc3 *△32.Rd1
Rd7 33.Qb5 Rxd6! 34.Rxd6 Qxc1+ 35.Kg2
Qxf4*;

B3c42242223222) 31.d7 *Stoica,Valentin: '△?!'
Rc7 Stoica,Valentin: '∞'*

B3c422422232221) 33...e5!? *34.fxe5 Re6
35.Qh4 f6! 36.exf6 Qc3 37.f7+ Kxf7
38.Qxh7+ Qg7 39.Qh4 Qf6 40.Qxf6+ Kxf6
41.Kg2 Rc6 (41...Re7? 42.Rd5!+-) 42.Kg3
Ke6=;*

B3c422422232222) 33...Qf5 34.Bb2
(34.Kg2 Rc7) 34...e5 35.fxe5

B3c4224222322221) 35...Qxf3+!?
*36.Kg1 Re6 37.b4 Qc6 (37...f6 38.c5
bxc5 39.bxc5 Kf8 40.Qd5! Qxd5
41.Rxd5±) 38.c5 Kf8∞;*

B3c4224222322222) 35...Qe6 36.Qc3
*Kf8 (36...Rc7? 37.Rd6) 37.Ba3+ Kg8
38.Bb2 Kf8=;*

B3c422422232223) 31.Qe3 Qc5! *(31...Qb4?
32.d7 Rc7 33.Bxc6 Rxc6 34.Bb2+-) 32.Qc3
(32.Qxc5 bxc5 33.Bb2 Rd7 34.Bf6 a5!
35.Kg2 Nd4) 32...Rxd6! 33.Bb2 e5 34.Rxd6
(34.Bd5 Re8) 34...Qxd6 35.fxe5*

B3c422422232231) 35...Qb4!? 36.Qe3
(36.Kg2 Qxc3 37.Bxc3 Nd8 $\bar{f}$) 36...Qc5
37.Qc3 Rd8 (37...Qf2 38.h3=) 38.Bd5
Qa5 39.e6 (39.Qxa5 bxa5!) 39...Qxc3
40.exf7+ Kf8 41.Bxc3 Ne7 42.Bb4 a5
43.Ba3 b5 44.Bc5 bxc4 45.bxc4 (45.Bxc4
Rc8 46.Be3 Kg7=) 45...Rb8 46.Kg2 Rb2+
47.Kg3 Rxa2 48.Kf4 Rd2! (48...Re2
49.Kg5) 49.Ke5 Rxd5+ 50.cxd5 Kxf7=;

B3c422422232232) 35...Qd1+⊕ 36.Kg2
Rd8 (36...Qe2+=) 37.Bd5□ Qe2+ 38.Kg1
Qd1+ 39.Kg2 Qe2+ 40.Kg1 (40.Kg3?
Ne7-+) 40...Qd1+ 41.Kf2

B3c4224222322321) 41...Qh1 42.Bxc6
Qxh2+ 43.Ke3 Qg1+ 44.Ke4 f5+
45.exf6 Qb1+ 46.Kf4 Qf5+ 47.Kg3
Qg5+=;

B3c4224222322322) 41...Ne7!? 42.e6
f6 43.h4 (43.Qxf6 Qd2+ 44.Kg3 Nf5+
45.Kh3 Qh6+=) 43...Nxd5 44.cxd5 Rxd5
45.Qxf6 Rd2+ 46.Kg3 Qg1+ 47.Kf4
Qh2+=;

B3c4224222322323) 41...Rxd5?!
42.cxd5 Qxd5 43.e6 Qc5+□ 44.Qxc5
bxc5 [♘♙ 5/d] 45.Ba3 fxe6 46.Bxc5±
Kf7 47.b4 a6 48.Ke3

B3c42242223223231) ♞48...Ne5 49.a4
(49.Bd4 Nc6 50.a3 Ke8 51.Ke4 Kd7±;
49.Ke4 Nd7 50.a4 Ke8 51.f4 Kd8±)
49...Ke8 50.Bd4 Nf7 51.f4 Kd7±;

B3c42242223223232) 48...e5 49.Kd3
Ke6 50.Kc4± Nb8 (50...h5 51.a4 g5
52.Be3 g4 53.fxg4 hxg4 54.b5±) 51.a4
Nd7 52.b5 axb5+ 53.Kxb5 [♘♙ 5/e]
Kd5 54.Bb6 (54.Be7! Ke6 55.a5!+-)

B3c422422232232321) 54...Nf6!?
55.Bd8 (55.a5? Ne8 56.Bd8 Nd6+
57.Kb6 Nc4+ 58.Kb7 Nxa5+ 59.Bxa5
Kd4 60.Kc6 Ke3=) 55...Ne8 56.Be7!
Ke6 57.Ba3 (Δ ♙f8) Kd7 58.Kb6+-;

B3c422422232232322) 54...Nb8 55.a5
Kd6 56.Bc5+ Kd5 (56...Kd7 57.a6+-)
57.Be3+- Nc6 58.a6 Kd6 59.Kb6 Kd5

60.Bh6 Ne7 61.Bf8 Nc6 62.h3
 1-0 (62) Leniart,A (2442)-Georgescu,T
 (2388) Bucuresti 111/290 2011 Cl1-130
 [Stoica,Valentin];

C) 18.Rc2 a5 19.c5 (19.e5 a4 20.Bc1 Qc5 21.Be3 Qa5)

C1) 19...dxc5 20.e5! (20.Bxc5 Qxc5!=) 20...Qb4 (20...b6? 21.Rc4+-)
 21.Rc4 Qb5 22.Rxc5±;

C2) 19...a4! 20.cxd6 Qxd6!? (20...axb3 21.dxe7 bxc2=) 21.Rd2 Qb4±;

D) not forced; in fact, as in analogous positions, White should opt for other standard set-ups such as 18.Rfd1 b6 19.Kh1 Rab8!? 20.f5 a5± Δ a4;

E) 18.Rcd1

E1) 18...b6 19.f5 a5;

E2) 18...Rfd8 19.f5 (19.Kh1 a5 20.Rd5 a4 21.Rb5 axb3 22.axb3 Rd7 23.f5 Na7) 19...a5 (19...gxf5 20.Kh1) 20.Rd5 a4 21.Rb5 axb3 22.axb3 Rd7 23.fxc6 fxc6 24.f4±;

E3) 18...Qb2 (Deep Fritz 8 - Aristarch 4.50, Internet (blitz) 2004) 19.Rd2 Qc3 20.Rd5 Rad8 21.Rfd1= The position is objectively equal, although a touch more comfortable for White.]

b) 17...Rac8

[17...Rfd8 Black's best isn't evident at this point, but Konikowski and Soszynski have recommended this move, so I'll consider it as the main line.

A) A precise move. Instead the aggressive 18.h4 can be met by Qb4 , and the further 19.b3?! (White should have played 19.Rc2 followed by Rd3 and then a3, which I shall call Greta's plan) with 19...a5! 20.c5 a4 when Black was doing quite well in G.Milos-H.Peng, Groningen 1996.;

B) Note that I have tried 18.Kh1!? here: Rac8 (again the disruptive 18...Qb4! should be met by Greta's plan with 19.Rc2!) 19.h4 Qa5 20.Rd5 Qa6 21.Rg5 e6 22.h5 Ne7 23.Rgg1 b6 (less docile was 23...b5) 24.f5 exf5 25.exf5 with a powerful attack, G.Flear-M.Vallet, French League 2004.;

C) 18.Rd3! Qa5 19.a3

C1) Somewhat passive. Hazai analyses 19...e5 20.fxe5 dxe5 21.b4 Qc7 22.Rd5 , but naturally prefers White who has the bishops and a mobile queenside majority.;

C2) I had a game against Anna Zozulia a few years ago where she played 19...Rac8 and to some extent outplayed me. As a result of this encounter Konikowski and Soszynski feel that 'Black can certainly fight for equality.' That's fair enough, but in my opinion White can certainly fight for an advantage! Indeed, after the 20.b4 Qh5

C2a) 21.Qg3 also looks promising: for example, e5 (or if 21...e6 then simply 22.Rcd1) 22.Rd5 Ne7 23.Ra5;

C2b) 21.Rd5 Qh3 22.Bd3 e5 23.Bf1 Qe6 of G.Flear-A.Zozulia, Marseille 2004, White can keep some advantage with 24.Rcd1! .;

C3) 19...Qc7 20.Kh1 b6 (Hazai suggests that Black should try 20...e5!?)

21.fxe5 dxe5 22.Rd5 Nd4 when despite White having the bishop-pair and potential on the queenside, Black has a fine outpost for his knight.) 21.b4 Rac8 22.Ba2 Nb8 23.Rcd1 Nd7 This was seen in H.Gretarsson-H.Olsen, Gentofte 1999, and now Hazai's 24.Qd2! is the best way to turn the screw. The Pawns that Bind-C2: 11...Bg4]

[a) 17...b6 was played unsuccessfully in the featured game I.Sokolov-Xie Jun.]

[c) After 17...Qb4 White can react with b3 followed by playing in the centre, or he can try to aim for a3 and b4. In each case he seems to be better: 18.b3 (the 18.Rc2 b6 19.Rd3 Rac8 20.a3 Qa4 21.b3 Qa6 22.b4 b5 23.Ba2

of H.Gretarsson-J.Balcerak, Pardubice 1998, is a good example of Gretarsson's favoured approach) 18...Rfd8 19.Rd5 Qa3 20.Rcd1 Bb2 21.e5 dxe5 22.Bc5 and White won material in G.Flear-S.Rouchouse, French League 2004. However, this wasn't quite the end of the matter: Qa5 23.Qxb2

A) I wasn't so sure about 23...Qxc5+ 24.Rxc5 Rxd1+ 25.Kf2 e6 until Shirov pointed out to me that 26.Qc2! seems to tidy up: Rad8 (or 26...Rd7 27.Rxc6 bxc6 28.fxe5 Rad8 29.Ke1 , etc.) 27.Rd5!;

B) 23...Rxd5 24.Rxd5 Qe1+ 25.Kg2 exf4 26.Be4 f5 27.Rd1 and that was indeed the end!]

18.Rd3

[18.b3 Qa5

A) 19.Rd5 Qc7 20.Rcd1 b6 (V. Topalov - S. Dolmatov, Elenite 1995) 21.f5 (21.a3 Rfd8 22.h4 e6 23.Rg5 Qe7 24.h5 was seen in V.Topalov-S. Dolmatov, Elenite 1995, in which White had an enduring initiative.) 21...Kh8 22.Qh4 Rg8 23.Kh1± White has the initiative.;

B) 19.f5 Qa3 20.Kh1 a5 21.c5± White has the initiative. G. Netolitzky - I. Savu, corr. 2006]

18...Qa5 19.a3

[19.Rb3 Qc7 20.Rd3 (20.Bxa7? (H. Gretarsson - T. Hillarp Persson, Copenhagen 1997) Nxa7 21.Qxa7 d5! 22.e5 Bh6 23.Qe3 f6≠ Black has the initiative.) 20...e5 21.f5 Nd4 22.f4 Rfe8= The chances are roughly equal, though better players should feel more comfortable.]

19...Qc7 20.b4 b6 21.Ba2 Rb8 22.Rcd1 Rfd8 23.Kh1 a5 24.b5 Na7 Gretarsson, H - Hillarp Persson, T online Olympiad 2020, and now the breakthrough 25.f5! is the most unpleasant for Black.

A radical try is b) **12...e5** Filgueira, H - Ricardi, P Chesspangenberg open 2003, as analyzed by Joe Gallagher in the archives. ChessPublishing.com: 'very unusual,' 13.Qd2

[13.Qf2 exf4 14.Bxf4 Bxf3 15.gxf3 Ne5 16.Be2 a6 17.Bd2 Rac8 18.b3 b5 19.Rfd1 bxc4 20.Na4 Qb5 21.Nb6 Rcd8 22.Nxc4 left White with a clear two bishops advantage in C.Gabriel-I.Muslija, Pula 1997.]

13...exf4 14.Bxf4 Bxf3 15.gxf3 Ne5 Filgueira,H-Ricardi,P/Buenos Aires ARG 2003
c) **12...Rfe8** 13.Qf2 Bxf3 14.gxf3 Nh5 (placing the knight here and pressing on f4 is an option, but also one that doesn't seem to inconvenience White too

much) 15.Kh1 e6 16.Rfd1 Bh6 17.Qd2 Qd8 18.Rg1 Qf6 19.Rg4 Ne5
20.Rf1!

[and not 20.fxe5? because of Qxf3+]

20...Nc6

[simplification with 20...Nxg4 21.fxg4 Nxf4 22.Bxf4 Bxf4 23.Qxf4 Qxf4 24.Rxf4 favours White as the black rooks won't be able to activate that easily]

21.Bc2 Red8 22.b3 Bg7 23.Ne2 Qb2 24.Bb1 and White kept a pull in K.

Movsziszian-C.Aldrovandi, Taormina 2003.

13.Kh1 A novelty.

[Previously 13.Bb1 has been the most popular: Nd7 (13...a6 14.h3 Bxf3 15.Qxf3 (as a rule, it's more promising to capture this way when the d4-square isn't available for Black) Nd7 16.Qf2 Nc5 17.Rfd1 (White has good control whereas Black's 'counterplay' hasn't got off the ground, hence the following move attempting to generate complications...) b5?! 18.cxb5 axb5 19.Nd5 Kf8 20.e5! Gasanov, E - Morchiasvili, B Malatya 2014, with a powerful initiative) 14.Qf2 (14.Rfd1 Qh5 15.Qf2 e5 16.Ne2 Bxf3 17.gxf3 exf4 18.Nxf4 Qe5 19.b3 Nf6 20.Ne2 Qe7 21.Nc3 a6 22.Bd3 Qf8 23.Bf1 with an enduring edge, F.Braga-P. Thipsay, Manila Olympiad 1992. Playing ...e5 at some point gives Black access to some squares, but on the other hand creates weaknesses.) 14...Bxf3 15.gxf3 (15.Qxf3!? Qb4 16.Qf2 Qxc4 17.Nd5 Qb5 18.Rxc6 bxc6 19.Nxe7+ Kh8 20.Nxc8 Rxc8 Anagnostopoulos, D - Thipsay, P London 1991, and the bishop pair offer White a small pull) 15...a6 16.Kh1 (16.Rfd1 Qd8 17.Nd5 e6 18.Nc3 Qe7 19.Qd2 Qh4 Soln, P - Gallagher, J Charleville Mezieres 2000, and despite the engines preference for White he was unable to make any headway in the actual game) 16...b5 17.cxb5 axb5 18.Nd5 Qd8 19.f5 e6 20.fxe6 fxe6 21.Nf4 Qe7± Soln, P - Sebenik, M Ljubljana 2012, and I'd take White (the bishop pair again!) but I don't think that Black is doing too badly.]

13...Nd7 14.Qf2 Nb4 15.Bb1 The c-pawn is abandoned in the quest for an attack.

15...Bxf3 16.Qxf3

[16.gxf3 Rxc4 17.f5 is another way to turn up the heat.]

16...Rxc4 17.e5 Nc6 18.Rcd1

[It might even be stronger to choose the other rook: 18.Rfd1]

18...Re8 19.Qe2 Rxc3 20.bxc3

[Instead, 20.Bd2 dxe5 21.Bxc3 Qc7 would yield more practical chances for Black.]

20...Qxc3 21.Bg1 White's bishop retreats are quite striking! The lines are cleared ready for the rooks to come onto the scene. 21...Kf8

[Or 21...Rd8 22.exd6 e5 23.fxe5 Ndx5 24.Be4 and White's pieces are simply too strong.]

22.Rf3 Qa5 23.Rh3 Nc5

[The defeatist 23...Kg8 allows White a pleasant choice between capturing on d6 or continuing with 24.e6 e.g. Nf6 25.exf7+ Kxf7 26.g4 e6 27.g5 Nh5 28.Rxh5 gxh5 29.Qxh5+ with a strong attack.]

24.Rxh7 dxe5 25.f5 This is decisive even when there isn't a rook on the f-file!
 25...gxf5 26.Qh5 Kg8 27.Bxf5 e6 28.Qg5 1-0 (28) Christiansen,L (2567)-Benjamin,
 J (2506) Saint Louis USA 2021 [Flear,Glenn]

⁶⁹ **7...b5** 7:47 ChessPublishing.com: '?!' RR: 'L'alternative qui donne des bonnes compensations aux Noirs' 8.Qc2 12:29 Perunovic,Milos: '?!'

[8.cxb5 Perunovic,Milos: '- 80/(577)' a6 (8...Qa5)

A) 9.bxa6 2:30 Qa5 30 10.Bd3 9:30 Nxd5 5:30 11.exd5 6:30 Bxc3+ 30
 12.Kf2?!N 10:30 (12.Bd2 Bxd2+ 13.Qxd2 Qxd2+ 14.Kxd2 Nxa6 15.Rhe1
 Nc7 16.Bc4 Re8 17.Kc3 Ba6 18.b3 Kf8 19.a4 Reb8 20.Ra2 Rb4 21.Rea1
 Rab8 22.Ne1 e6 23.dxe6 d5 24.Bxa6 Rxb3+ 25.Kd2 Nxa6 26.exf7 c4
 27.Nf3 Nb4 28.Ra3 Rb2+ 29.Kc3 Rxg2 30.Ne5 Rc2+ 31.Kd4 Rc8 32.Rb1
 Rd2+ 33.Kc3 Rxh2 34.Nd7+ Ke7 35.Nb6 1-0 (35) Korobov,A (2700)-
 Perunovic,M (2622) Berlin 2015) 12...Bg7 10:30 13.h4 4:30 c4 1:30 14.Bc2
 5:30 Nxa6 3:30 15.h5 10:30 Nb4 12:30 16.hxg6 2:30 fxg6 30 17.Ng5 17:23
 Bf5 12:30 18.Bxf5 3:15 Rxf5 30 19.g4 3:14 Rxd5 9:30 20.Qe2 18 Nd3+ 30
 21.Kg3 2:32 e5 1:30 22.Rxh7 7:27 Nxc1 6:30 23.Rxc1 3:03 exf4+ 1:30
 24.Kxf4 2:11 Be5+ 2:30 25.Kf3 26 0-1 (25) Fruchard,C (2094)-Bandet,R (2152)
 Agen 2016 EXT 2017 [ChessBase II];

B) 9.Qb3

B1) 9...Qb6 10.a4 axb5 11.Bxb5 Ba6 12.Nd2 Bxb5 13.Nxb5 Nbd7
 (13...Na6 (J. Piket - A. Shirov, Aruba 1995) 14.Nc4 Qb7 15.Qc2 Nd7
 16.0-0±) 14.Nc4 Qb7 15.Qf3 Ra6 16.0-0±;

B2) 9...Qa5 10.Bd2 axb5 11.Bxb5 Ba6= The chances are roughly equal,
 though better players should feel more comfortable. Texel 1.04 - Deuterium
 v14.2.33.276, Internet (blitz) 2014;

C) 9.a4 ChessPublishing.com: '!'

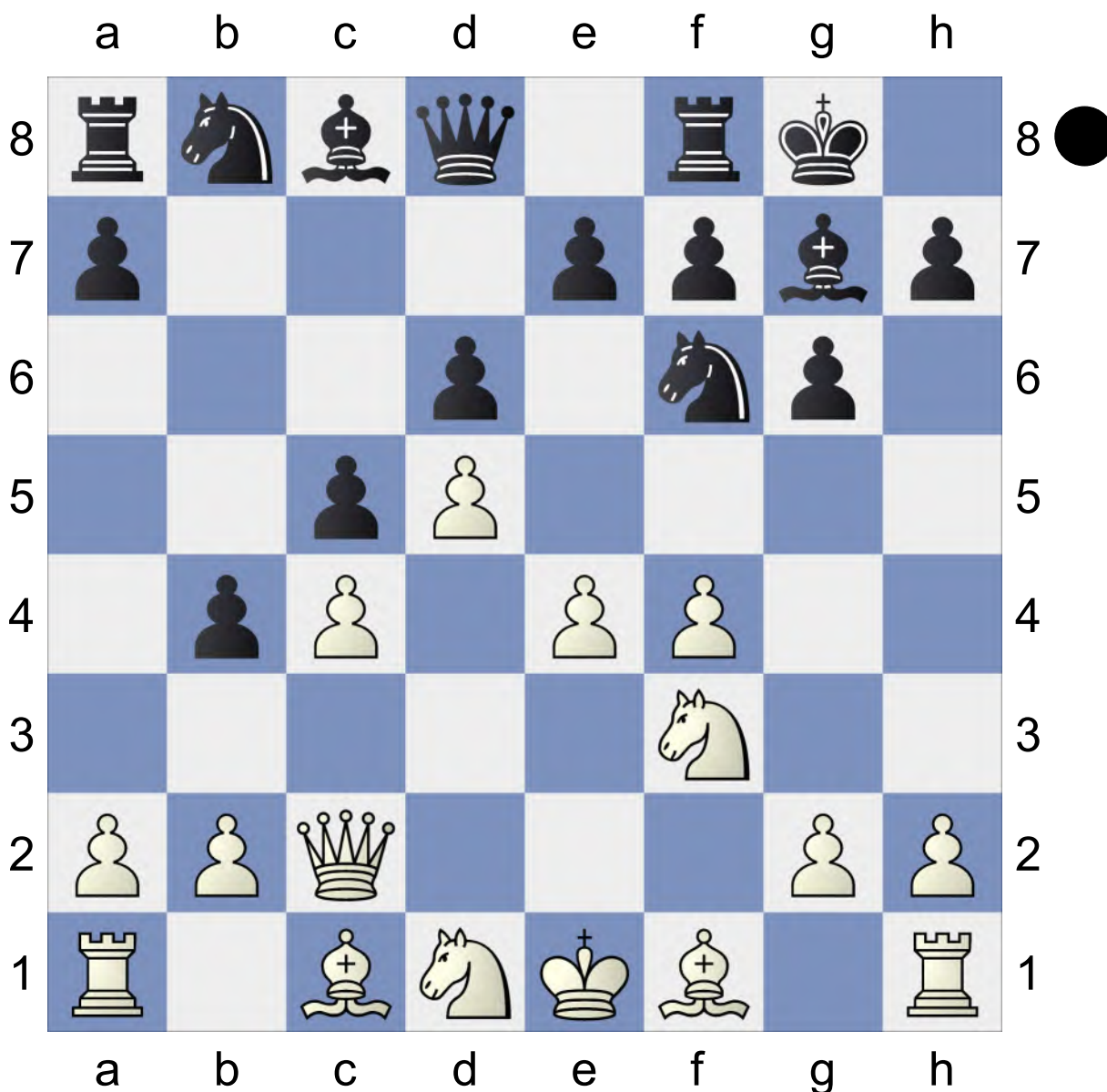
C1) 9...axb5 Vigorito, D: '1-0 (23) Nogueiras, J-Sax, G Graz 1984 [And
 Martin]' 10.Bxb5 Ba6 11.Bd2 Bxb5 12.axb5 Rxa1 13.Qxa1± Nogueiras,J-
 Sax,G/Graz 1984. Qb6 14.0-0 Ng4 (14...Nbd7?! 15.Qe1 Qb7 (J. Lautier -
 A. Shirov, Belgrade 1997) 16.Qh4 Nb6 17.f5 Ra8 18.Bh6± White has the
 attack.) 15.Qe1 Bd4+ 16.Kh1 Bxc3 17.Bxc3 Qxb5 18.Kg1± Black has
 insufficient control over the black squares. S. Martinsen - T. Hirneise, Krakow
 2012;

C2) 9...Bb7 10.Ra3 (10.Bd3 axb5 11.Bxb5 Na6 12.0-0 Nc7 13.Bc4±
 Black has insufficient compensation for material deficit. L. Van Wely - A.
 Shchekachev, Amsterdam 2001) 10...e6 11.dxe6 fxe6 12.e5 Trajko Nedev:
 '!' Nd5 13.Ng5 Trajko Nedev: '±' Trajko Nedev: 'Black has insufficient
 compensation for material deficit. I. Ivanisevic - N. Djukic, Skopje 2012' Nxf4
 14.Bxf4 Rxf4 15.Nxe6 Qh4+ 16.g3 Qe7 17.Nxf4 Qxe5+ 18.Kd2 Qd4+
 19.Bd3 axb5 20.Re1 Nc6 21.Qb3+ c4 22.Qxb5 cxd3 23.Qxb7 Rb8
 24.Qxc6 Qf2+ 25.Kxd3 Qxe1 26.Rb3 Re8 1-0 (26) Ivanisevic,I (2645)-
 Djukic,N (2513) Skopje 2012 Vigorito, D: '1-0 (26) Ivanisevic, I (2645) -Djukic,

N (2513) Skopje MKD 2012']

[8.e5 Nfd7 9.Nxb5 dxe5 10.Bd3 a6 11.Nc3 Qc7 12.f5→ Vaiser,A-Loginov,A/
Alma-Ata 1980]

8...b4 5:10 9.Nd1 5:29 Perunovic,Milos: 'Diagram



' 9...b3 11:44 Perunovic,Milos: 'N!?'

[9...e6!

A) 10.Bd3 exd5 11.cxd5 (11.exd5 Re8+ 12.Kf1 Bg4+) 11...c4! 12.Qxc4
(12.Bxc4 Nxe4+) 12...Ba6 13.Qb3 Bxd3 14.Qxd3 Nxe4+;

B) 10.Nf2 exd5 11.cxd5 Re8+;

C) 10.dxe6 fxe6 11.Nf2 e5 12.g3 Nc6+]

10.axb3 11 Na6± 14 11.Nf2 3:14

[11.Bd2 Nb4 (11...e6) 12.Bxb4 cxb4

A) 13.e5 Nd7+;

B) 13.c5 Qc7 14.c6 e6 15.dxe6 (15.Bc4?! exd5 16.exd5 Re8+ 17.Kf1 Bf5 18.Bd3 Re4!) 15...Bxe6 16.Bd3 a5☹;

C) 13.Bd3 Nd7 14.0-0 Nc5☹]

11...Nb4 30 12.Qb1 46 e6! 2:15 13.dxe6 5

[13.Be2 exd5 14.cxd5 Nfxd5! 15.0-0 Nf6☹]

13...fxe6 4:40

[13...Bxe6 14.Bd3 (14.Be2 Re8 15.0-0 Bd7↑) 14...Ng4! 15.0-0 Nxf2 16.Rxf2 Bd7! 17.f5 (17.Bd2?! Bxb2!) 17...Bc6☹]

14.Be2 6 e5 8:27

[14...Nh5 15.g3]

15.fxe5 5:02

[15.0-0 exf4 16.Bxf4 Bb7☹]

15...Ng4 1:46 Perunovic,Milos: '!' 16.Bg5 1:08

[16.Nxg4 Bxg4 17.0-0 Bxf3 18.Bxf3 Bxe5☹]

16...Qc7 7:27

[♠16...Qb6 17.Nxg4 Bxg4 18.exd6 Bxf3 19.Bxf3 Bd4☹]

17.Nd3 3:44 Perunovic,Milos: '?!'

[17.Nxg4 Bxg4 18.exd6 Qxd6 19.0-0 Nc6☹]

17...Bb7 10:49 18.e6 9:25 Perunovic,Milos: '?!'

[♠18.0-0 Bxe4 19.Qd1 dxe5 20.Nxb4 cxb4☹]

18...h6 5:13 Perunovic,Milos: '?!'

[18...Bxe4! 19.Qd1 (19.Nxb4 Bxb1 20.Nd5 Qb7 21.Rxb1 Rae8-+) 19...Bxd3 20.Bxd3 Bxb2 21.Ra4 Bc3+ 22.Kf1 Qb7-+]

19.Nxb4 30 cxb4 30 20.h3 30 Perunovic,Milos: 'Diagram

[20.e7 Rf7 21.Rxa7 Re8 22.h3 (22.Bh4 Ne3☹) 22...Nf2 23.Rf1 hxg5 24.Rxf2 Rxe7↑]

(Diagram)

' 20...Nf2 30 Perunovic,Milos: '!' 21.Kxf2 30 hxg5 30 22.Rd1 30 Perunovic, Milos: '?!'

[22.Bd3 Qc5+ (22...Rae8☹) 23.Ke2 Bd4!☹ (23...Rae8 24.Qg1!)]

22...Qc5+ 30 23.Ke1 30 Be5 30 Perunovic,Milos: '?!'

[23...Rf4↑ 24.Rd5 Bxd5 25.exd5 (25.cxd5 g4 26.hxg4 Rc8☹) 25...g4 26.hxg4 Rxg4 27.Kf1 Rf8☹]

24.Rd5 30

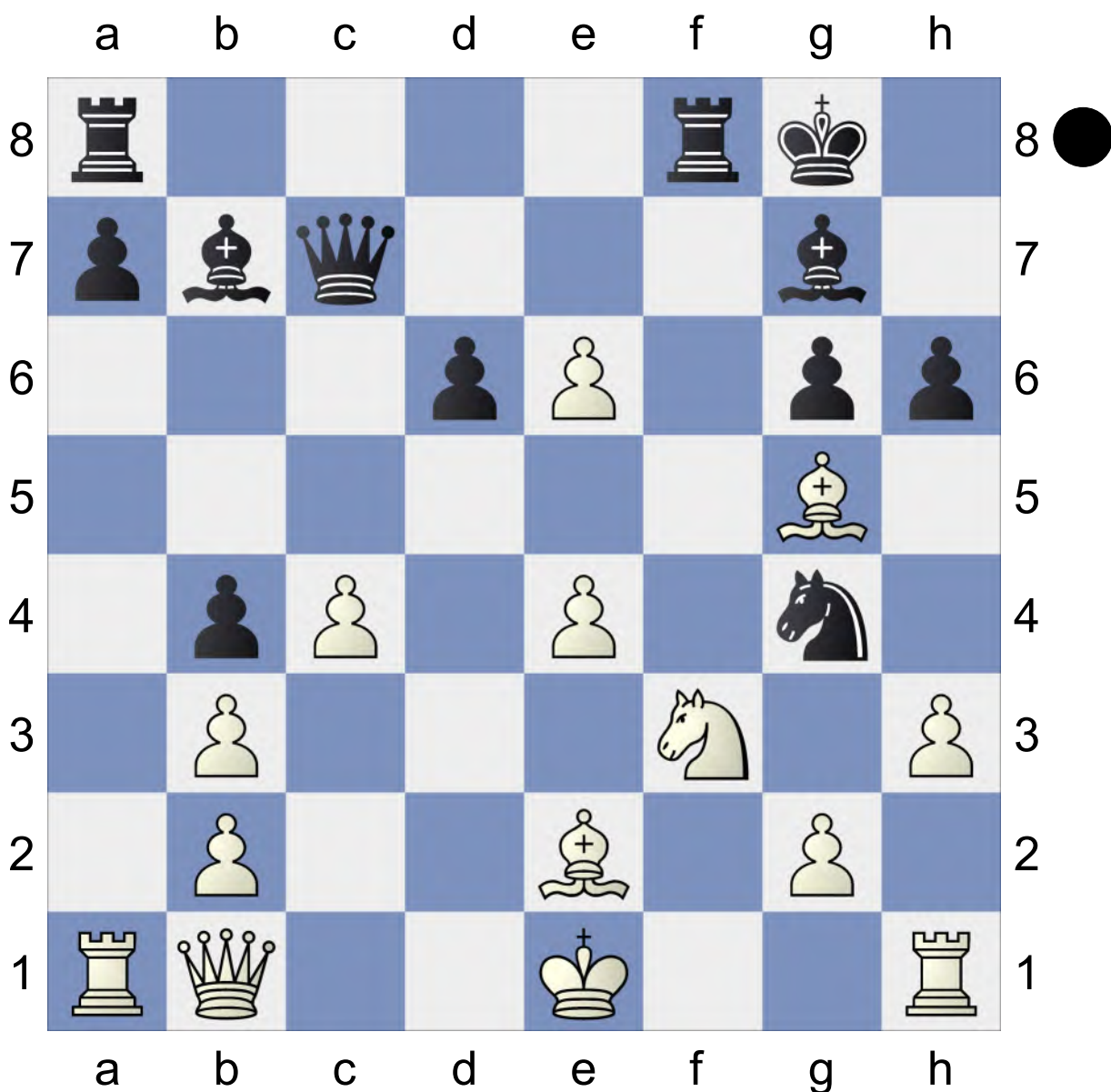
[24.Qd3]

24...Bxd5 30 25.exd5 30 Kg7? 30 26.Kd2 30 Perunovic,Milos: '?!'

[26.Qd3 Rxf3 (26...Bxb2 27.Ra6☹) 27.Bxf3 Qg1+ 28.Qf1 Qe3+ 29.Qe2 Qg1+=]

26...Rf4 30 Perunovic,Milos: '?!'

[26...Rxf3!]



A) 27.gxf3 Qd4+ 28.Kc2 Diagram

(Diagram)

g4!! 29.hxg4 (29.fxg4 Rf8-+) 29...Rh8 30.Qa2 a5!-+;

B) 27.Bxf3 Qf2+ 28.Kd3 Rf8-+]

27.Qg1 30 Perunovic,Milos: '!' 27...Bd4 30 Perunovic,Milos: '?'

[27...Qxg1 28.Rxg1 Bxb2 29.Ke3±]

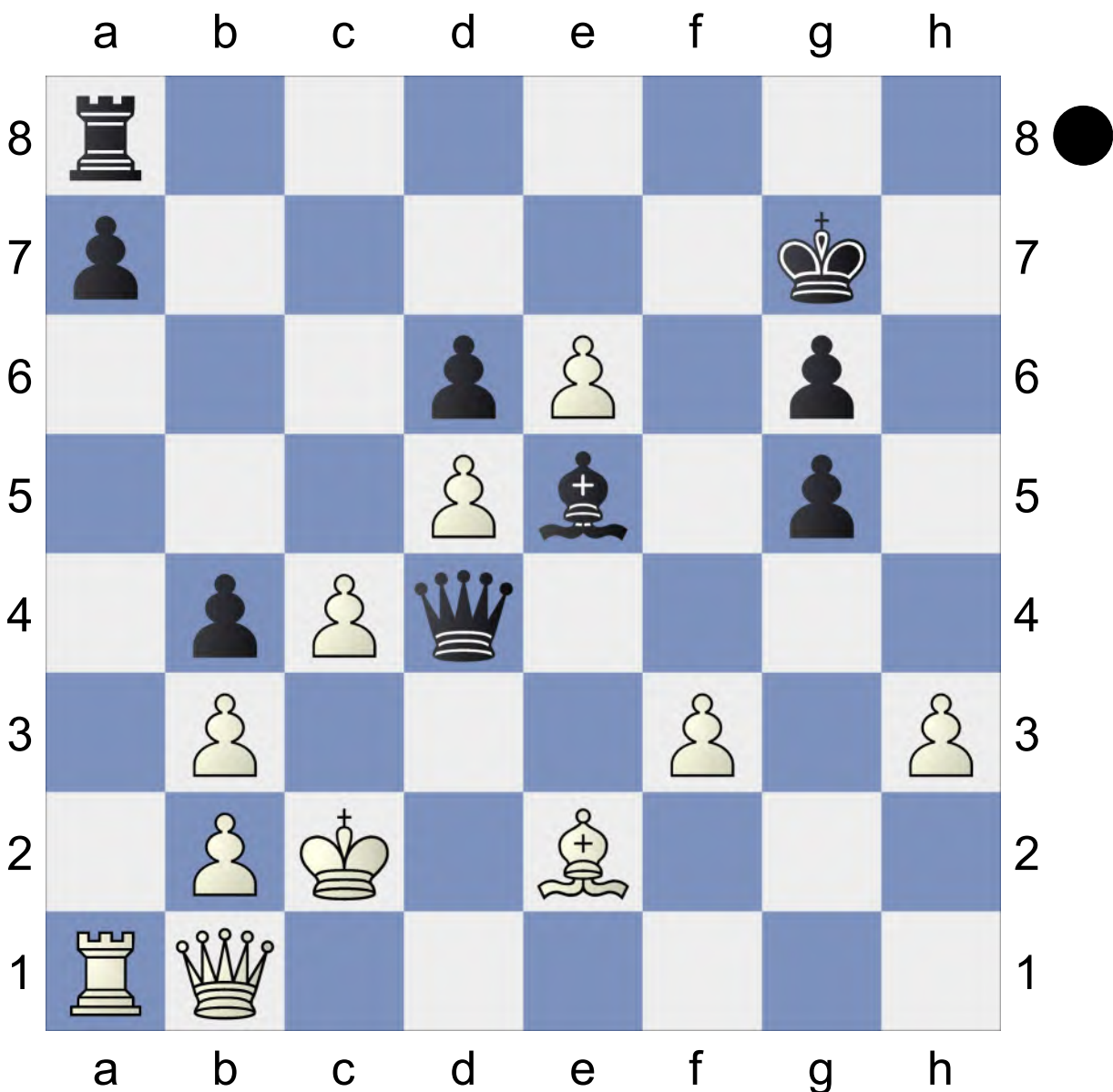
28.Nxd4 30 Rxd4+ 30 29.Kc2 30

[29.Bd3! Rf8 30.Qe3+-]

29...a5 30

[29...Rf8]

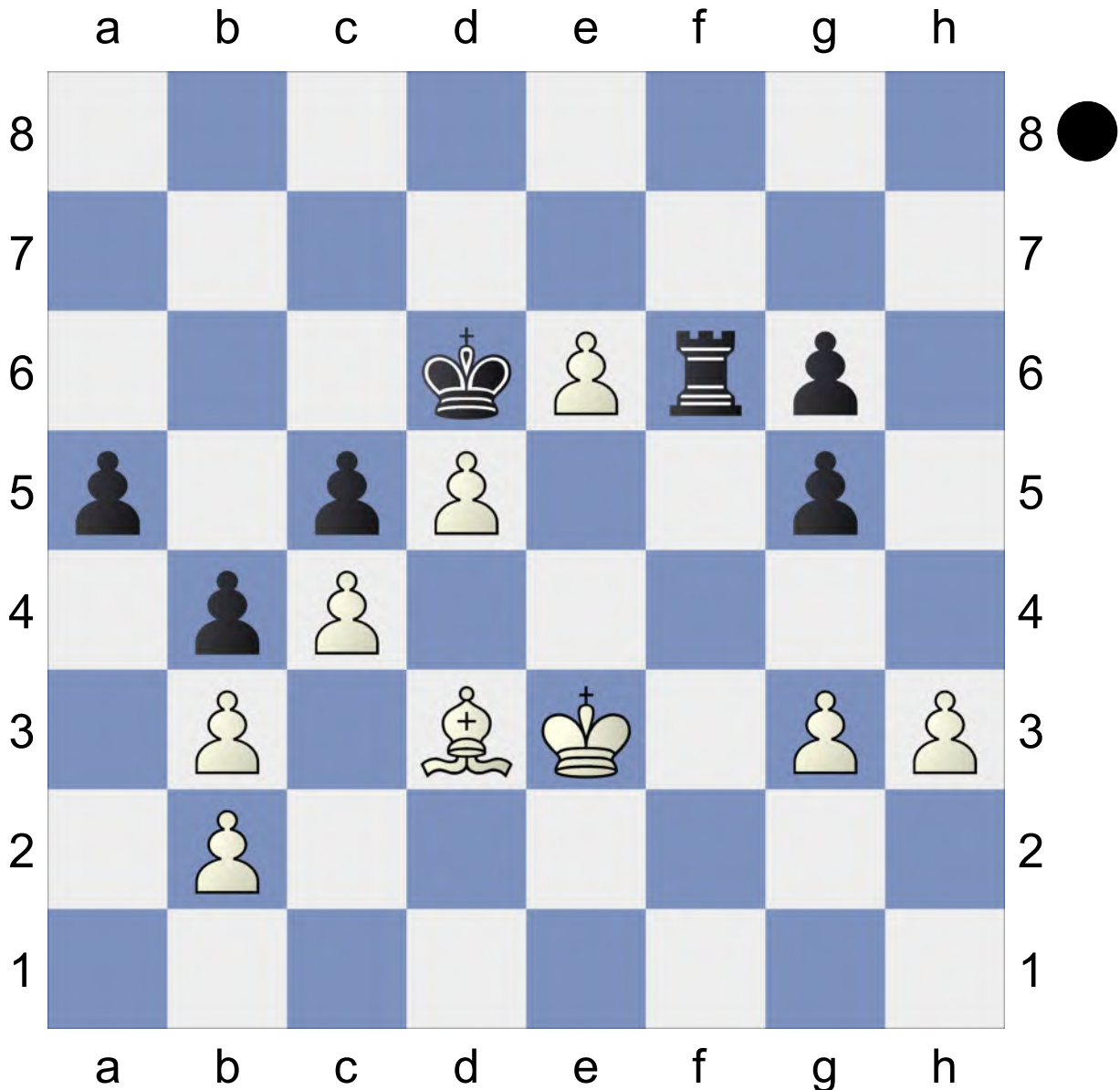
30.Rd1 30



[30.Rf1 Rc8 (30...a4? 31.Qf2 axb3+ 32.Kxb3 Qa7 33.Qf7+ Kh6 34.Qxa7 Rxa7 35.Rd1+-) 31.Bd3 Qxd5 32.e7 Qc5 33.g3!±]
 30...Rxd1 30 31.Qxc5 30 dxc5 30 32.Bxd1 30 Kf6 30 33.Kd2 30 Ke7 30 34.Bc2
 30 Rf8 30 35.Ke3 30 Rf6 30 36.Bd3 30 Kd6 30 37.g3 30 Perunovic,Milos: '?!'
 Perunovic,Milos: 'Diagram
 [37.Be2=]

(Diagram)

' 37...g4 30 Perunovic,Milos: '!' 38.hxg4 30 g5 28:47 39.Be2 21:38
 [♖39.Be4 Rf1 40.Bg6 Re1+ 41.Kf2 Rh1 42.Be8 Rh2+ 43.Ke3 Rg2 44.Kf3
 Rxb2 45.Ba4 Ke7♣]



39...Rh6 30 40.Kd2 7:01 Rh3 31:21 41.Bd1 30:08 Rxc3 33 42.Kc2 31 Rg2+ 0
43.Kc1 0 Rf2 0 44.Kb1 0 Rf4 0 45.Ka2 0 Perunovic,Milos: '??'

[45.Be2 Rf2 (45...Re4 46.Bf3 Re3 47.Bd1~~7~~) 46.Bd1]

45...Rf1 0 Perunovic,Milos: '-+' 46.Be2 0 Re1 0 47.Bd3 0 Re3 0 48.Bc2 0 Re2 0
49.Bd1 0 Re1 0 50.Bf3 0 Ke7 0 0-1 (50) Jobava,B (2663)-Cossin,S (2498) Brest
2018 EXT 2019 [ChessBase II] Perunovic,Milos: 'O'

7...a6 Gheorghiu's favourite. Black hopes to launch the attack with ...b7-b5 at the right moment. **8.a4 e5!?** a fascinating idea that was developed by Greek players, foremost amongst them being 4 Pawns expert Banikas (although usually from the white side), **9.fxe5 Nq4! 10.Bg5!**

[10.exd6 f5! 11.exf5 Bxf5 12.Be2 Qxd6 13.g3 Nxe2! with a winning attack, Houska,M-Banikas,H/Calicut 1998.and Cebalo,M-Pavlovic,M/Biel SUI 2003.]

10...Qb6 11.a5?!

[11.Qd2! is best]

11...Qxb2 12.Ra2 Colin,V-Sandu, M/Sautron 2004, and now the queen sacrifice
12...Qxc3+! 13.Bd2 Bxe5 is unclear.

- ⁷⁰ Dauthuis,Fernand: 'Préférable à l'immédiat' **8.Bd3** Dauthuis,Fernand: 'qui permettrait aux noirs, après' 8...exd5 9.cxd5 Dauthuis,Fernand: 'd'empêcher le petit roque par' 9...b5!
[9...Bg4 10.0-0 Nbd7 11.h3 Bxf3 12.Qxf3 a6 13.a4
A) 13...Qa5 (H. Martinez - S. Iermito, Buenos Aires 2013) 14.Kh1 Rac8 15.Bd2 c4 16.Bc2 Nc5 17.Nb1 Qd8 18.Bc3 b5 19.axb5 axb5 20.f5±;
B) worse move is 13...Rb8 14.Be3 (14.a5 Ne8 15.Be3 b5 16.axb6 Rxb6 (A. Luft - A. Rupperecht, Germany 2005) 17.Rxa6 Rxb2 18.Nd1 Rb6 19.Rxb6 Qxb6 20.Nf2= The position is objectively equal, although a touch more comfortable for White.) 14...Qe7 15.Rae1 Ne8 (Li Chao - Zhao Jun, Xinghua Jiangsu 2011) 16.g4 Nc7 17.e5! dxe5 18.f5± White has the initiative.;
C) 13...Qc7 14.Bc2 (14.Kh1 c4 15.Bc2 (V. Milov - E. Lobron, Frankfurt (rapid) 2000) Rac8 16.a5 Nc5 17.Be3 Nfd7= The chances are roughly equal, though better players should feel more comfortable.) 14...Qa5 (with the idea b5) 15.Bd2 c4 16.Kh1 Rae8 17.Rfe1 Nc5 18.Nb1 Qc7 19.Bc3 b5 20.Nd2 Nfd7 21.Bxg7 Kxg7= This position is very complicated, which favors better players. <Human Player> - <Human Player>, corr. 2012]
[9...Qb6]
10.e5
[10.Bxb5 Nxe4 11.Nxe4 Qa5+ 12.Kf2 Qxb5 13.Nxd6 Qa6 14.Nxc8 Rxc8 15.Ne5 Qd6 16.Nc4 Qa6= Black has sufficient compensation for material deficit. J. Hvenekilde - A. Maksimenko, Copenhagen 1995]
10...dxe5 11.fxe5 Ng4 12.Bg5 Qb6

- ⁷¹ **8...Re8** 9.e5 dxe5 10.fxe5 Ng4 11.Bg5!? Weiß besitzt einen hauchdünnen Vorteil.
[11.Bf4=]

- ⁷² **9.e5** ChessPublishing.com: '?!' ChessPublishing.com: 'Unless white has something VERY new in mind, this old line of Gunderam's can be scrapped.'
Bellmann,Herbert: 'Diese Variante hat keinen guten Ruf unter den Theoretikern.'
Trajko Nedev: '?!' 9...Ne4 ChessPublishing.com: '!' ChessPublishing.com: 'Just a strong move...' Vigorito,D: '!' Bellmann,Herbert: '♣' Trajko Nedev: '!'
[9...dxe5 10.fxe5 Ng4 11.Bg5 transposes to 8 e5, above, after Qa5 12.cxd5 Nxe5 (12...c4 Povah, N-Kruppa,Y/Oerebro 1995.) 13.0-0 Qb4! Williams,S-Jones, G/Bunratty IRL 2018. (13...Nbd7 14.Be7 Re8 15.d6)
A) 14.Nb5? c4!♣ 0-1 (27) Schilling,A (1830)-Poschmann,H (2328) IECC email 2005;
B) 14.Nxe5?! Bxe5 15.Qc2?! (15.Qd2) 15...h6 (15...f6!? 16.Be3 Qh4♣)

16.Be7 Re8 17.d6 Bxd6? (17...Nc6~~7~~) 18.Bxd6 Qd4+ 19.Kh1 Qxd6
20.Ne4± 1-0 (39) Tisdall,J (2410)-Da Cunha,M (2325) Manchester 1981;

C) 14.Qd2 Bf5 15.Rad1

C1) 15...Re8 16.d6 Nbc6 17.Nd5 Nxf3+ 18.Bxf3 Qxb2? (18...Qxd2
19.Rxd2 Rab8) 19.Qxb2 Bxb2 20.Nc7± 1-0 (40) Zylla,J (2226)-Wallner,J
(2333) ICCF email 2006;

C2) 15...Nxf3+ 16.Bxf3 Nd7 17.d6[∞] 1/2-1/2 (33) Kracht,J (2380) -Schinke,A
ICCF email 2000;

C3) 15...Nbd7!?!N;

D) 14.Qc1?! Nxf3+ 15.Rxf3 Re8?! (Black is clearly better after 15...Nd7!
as White is struggling to prove compensation.) 16.Bb5 (16.Bf6! leaves the
dark squares around Black's king a little soft. This combined with the open f-file
will make it harder for Black to convert.) 16...Bd7 17.a3 Qd4+ 18.Kh1 a6
19.Rf4 (Black would execute the same idea after 19.Rd3) 19...axb5!
Black is not afraid to give back some material to achieve a dominating position.
20.Rxd4 cxd4 21.Na2 Na6~~7~~ White's queen has not entry squares on the c-file.
On the other hand, Black has complete control over the e-file. 22.Qf4 Bf5
23.Rf1 Re4 (23...Nc5!/? is another idea. Black's knight might go to e4, and d6
now allows ...Ne6) 24.Qf3 (Maybe White should grasp the opportunity to play
24.Qd6 with a little counterplay, but Black is still pressing after Rae8) 24...Rae8
25.d6 Nc5 26.Nb4 h6 27.Be7 d3!-+ This is a devastating blow.

D1) 28.Nxd3 has to work if White is going to survive, but Nxd3 29.Qxd3
(29.d7 R4xe7 30.dxe8Q+ Rxe8 and the three pieces will mop up against
the queen.) 29...R4xe7 30.Rxf5 Re1+ 31.Rf1 R8e3! deflecting the queen
from d4 (31...R8e2?? 32.Kg1+-) 32.Qxb5 R3e2! forces White to give up
his queen.;

D2) 28.Nd5 d2 29.Ne3 Re5 (29...Rd4-+ is more efficient) 30.b4 Nd7
(30...Ne4-+ and Black picks up the d6-pawn with an easy win.) 31.Qf2!
White picks off the d2 pawn and now Black has to rely entirely on piece play
to reel in the point. h5! 32.Qxd2 Bh6 33.Re1 (33.Rf3 Be4 34.Rg3 Rc8!
with similar play to the game.) 33...Rc8! Jones finds the only way to increase
the pressure

D2a) 34.h4 forces Black to settle for Rc2 as played in the game
(34...Rc4? 35.Bg5 is the point);

D2b) 34.h3? I imagine both players were in time trouble at this point.
34...Rc2? (34...Rc4 followed by ...Rce4 wins the full knight.) 35.Qd4?
(White can liquidate into the ending after 35.Qxc2 Bxc2 36.Nxc2 Rxe1+
37.Nxe1 although it should be winning for Black.) 35...Rc4 36.Qa7 Rce4
White's position has finally collapsed and he can no longer offer any
resistance. 37.Qa8+ Kh7 38.Qxb7 Rxe3 39.Rxe3 Rxe3 40.Qd5 Re1+
41.Kh2 Bf4+ 42.g3 Re2+ 43.Kg1 Be6 44.Qxb5 0-1 (44) Williams,S
(2453)-Jones,G (2646) Bunratty IRL 2018 [Vigorito,D] (44.Qxb5 Be3+
45.Kh1 Rd2 is curtains.)]

10.cxd5

[10.Nxd5 Nc6 (10...dxe5 11.fxe5 Nc6 12.0-0 Nxe5 13.Bf4 Nc6≠ White has insufficient compensation for material deficit. J. Javorsky - A. Valak, corr. 2010)]

10...Nxc3 11.bxc3 Nd7 12.e6

[12.0-0 dxe5 13.fxe5 Nxe5 Li,Z (2270)-Gheorghiu,F (2520)/Dubai ol (Men) 1986 (6)/0-1]

12...fxe6 13.dxe6 Nb6 Barsov,A (2525)-Ye,J (2681)/FIDE-Wch k.o. 2001 (1.4)/ 0-1

14.0-0 Bxe6 15.Ng5 Bd5 Trajko Nedev: '≠' Trajko Nedev: 'White has insufficient compensation for material deficit. A. Barsov - Ye Jiangchuan, Moscow 2001'

16.Rb1 Bxc3!≠ A bad day for Barsov, Barsov,A-Ye Jiangchuan, FIDE WCh KO, Moscow RUS (1.4) 2001.

73

9...Nh5 Diese Idee wurde durch den ehemaligen Weltmeister Boris Spasski vorgeschlagen.Schwarz will seinen schwarzfeldrigen ♖er auf c3 tauschen und dessen Gegenspieler auf c1 anschließend sofort mit f7-f5 einmauern.Schauen wir uns andere Möglichkeiten an: 10.0-0

[Nach 10.Bd2 empfiehlt die Theorie Bd4! z.B.: (Stark ist auch 10...Bxc3!? 11.Bxc3 Nxf4 12.0-0 und es ist fraglich ,ob Weiß genug Kompensation für den Bauern bekommt.) 11.Nxd4 (11.Qb3 Re8!) 11...cxd4 12.Nb5 (Wenn 12.Ne4? dann Re8! und Weiß hat Probleme.) 12...a6 13.Nxd4 Qh4+ 14.Kf1 Ng3+ 15.Kg1 Nxb1 und Schwarz hat die Qualität erobert aber nach weiterem schwachen Spiel die Partie trotzdem verloren,Pribyl-Vukic ,Kapfenberg 1970.Stark ist auch]

[10.Qd2?! Evite la prise ♖c3 mais la ♔ est mal placée Re8 11.0-0 Bg4≠ 12.Bd3 Na6 13.a3 Qe7 14.Ne2?! Nc7 15.Rb1 b5! 16.b3 bxc4 17.bxc4 Rab8 18.Qc2 Nf6 19.Nc3 Rxb1 20.Nxb1 Bxf3 21.Rxf3 Ng4 22.Bb2?? Qe1+ 0-1 (22) Lalande,J (2030)-Kadric,D (2379) Aix les Bains 2011 CBM 142 Extra [ChessBase II]]

(Diagram)

10...Bxc3 11.bxc3 f5 Dies ist die Folge des Plans von Schwarz.Nach

[11...Ng7 kann 12.f5!? geschehen ,was zu einem sehr komplizierten Spielführt. Die Variante wird weiter untersucht.]

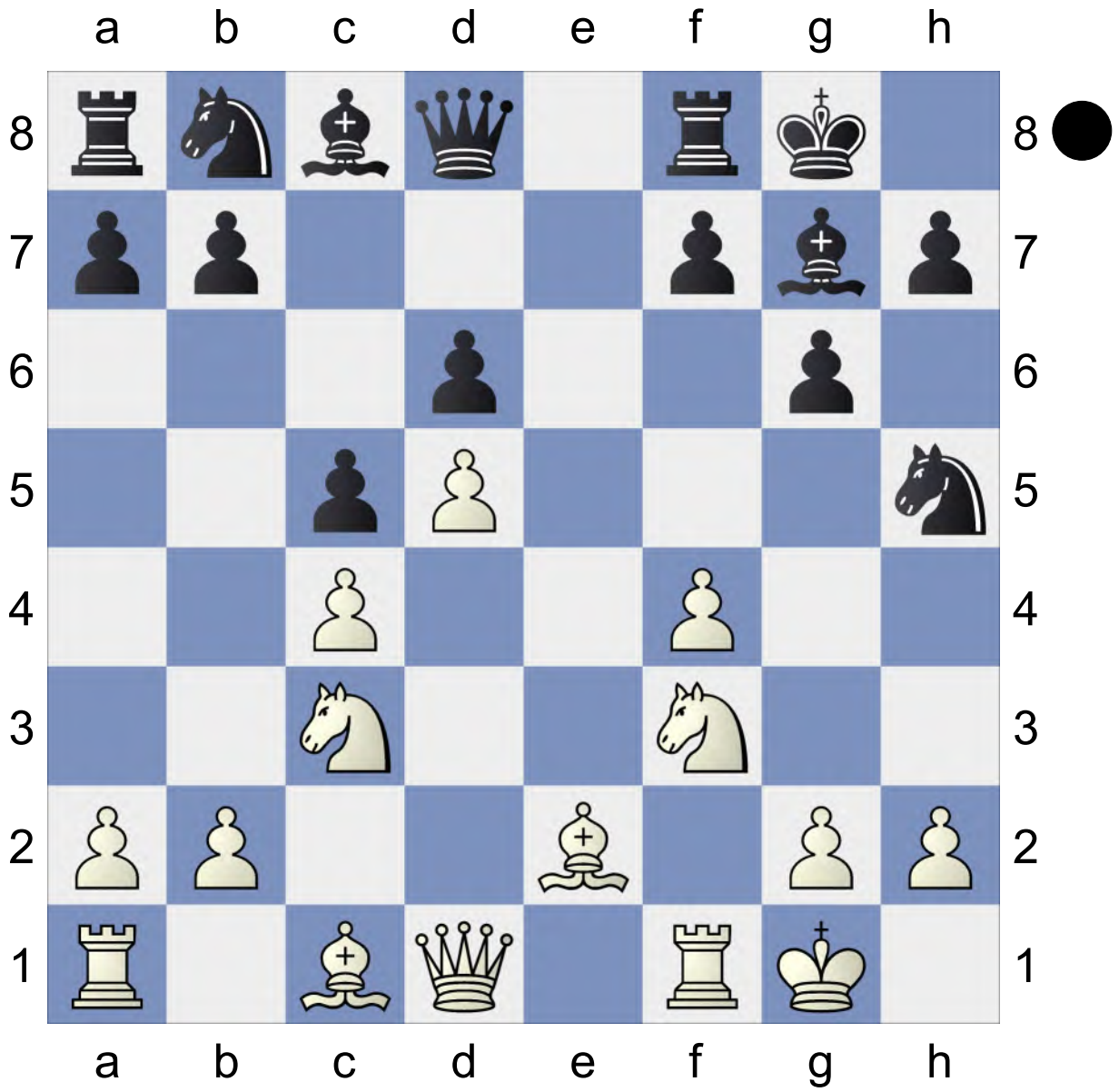
12.Ng5 Ng7 13.Be3

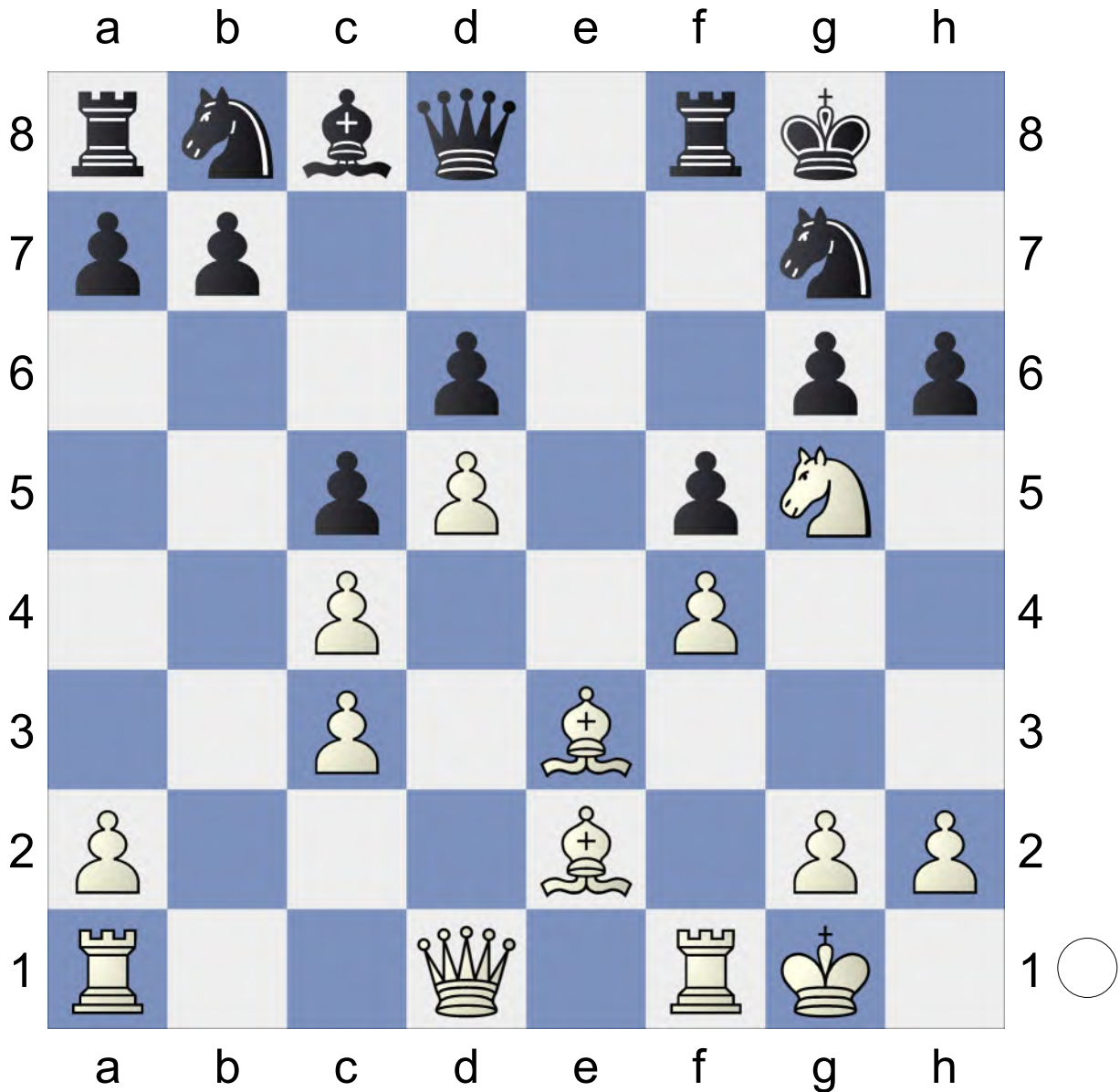
[13.Bf3 Nd7 14.Re1 ChessBase II: '≠' Nf6 15.Rb1 Re8 16.Rxe8+ Qxe8 17.Rb2 h6 18.Re2 Qd8 19.Ne6 Bxe6 20.dxe6 Qe7 21.Bd5 Rb8 22.a4 b6 23.Qc2 Re8 24.Bd2 Ne4 25.Bc6 Nxe6 26.Bxe8 Qxe8 27.Bc1 Qd7 und Schwarz hat eine solide Stellung,Pogosian-Domogajew,Dubna 2015.]

13...Re8

[Auf diese Weise möchte Schwarz die e-Linie kontrollieren.Nach 13...h6

(Diagram)





14.Nh3 Nd7 15.Bf3 Nf6 16.Nf2 Re8 17.Qd3 Kf7 18.Rae1 Ng4 sollte Weiß nun in der Partie Zigovecki-Blazeka, Velika Gorica 2008 19.Bxg4 fxg4 20.f5! spielen, mit Angriff]

14.Bf2

[Nach 14.Qd2 Qe7 15.Rf3 h6 16.Nh3 Nd7 17.Nf2 Nf6 18.Re1 Bd7 hat Schwarz keine Probleme.]

14...h6

[14...Nd7 15.Ne6 Nxe6 16.dxe6 Nf6 17.Bf3 Qc7 18.Bh4 Kg7 19.Rb1 remis Baier-Dede ,Mecklenburg 2006]

15.Nf3 Qf6 16.Qd2 Nd7 17.Rfe1 Qf7 18.Bd3 Nf6 19.Rxe8+ Qxe8 20.Re1 Qf7 21.h3 Bd7 22.Nh4 Re8 23.Rxe8+ Qxe8 24.Qe3 Qxe3 25.Bxe3 Kf7

mit Ausgleich im Endspiel, Schrank-Schweiger, Leitersdorf 2013.

Zusammenfassung: Der Vierbauernangriff ist sicherlich ein gefährliches System

für Schwarz ,wodurch präzises Spiel notwendig ist.Spasskys Plan nach 9...-h5 mit Blockade des Königsflügels sollte gute Chancen garantieren.Eine interessante Idee ist ...- b5!? im Stil des Wolga Gambits.Es besteht jedoch kein Zweifel ,dass der Kampf nach 9.cxd5 dynamischer ist. Königsindische Verteidigung-Vierbauernangriff mit 9.exd5 corr Analyse 2020 Kommentierte Partien2024 [Jerzy Konikowski]

9...Bf5 (Der Kampf um die Beherrschung des Feldes e4.) 10.0-0 A fairly flexible move, keeping open Black's options while preparing to open up the g7-bishop with a timely ...Ne4. However, as well as the 10...Na6 of Gustafsson-Solleveld, he has also tried:

[10...Re8 11.Bd3 Qd7 (11...Ne4 12.Nxe4 Bxe4 13.Bxe4 Rxe4 14.Qc2 Qe7 15.Bd2 Na6 Romero Guimaray-Gumularz, Montevideo 2017)]

[10...Ne4 11.Nxe4 Bxe4 12.Ng5 Bf5 (12...Re8 13.Nxe4 Rxe4 14.Bd3 Re8 15.f5 mit Angriffsmöglichkeiten.Ein praktisches Beispiel: Nd7 16.Kh1 Ne5 17.Bf4 g5 18.Bxe5 Rxe5 19.f6 Bxf6 20.Qh5 Bg7 21.Bxh7+ Kf8 22.Qxf7# Vorackova-Trochta,Ricany 2014) 13.g4 Bc8 14.f5 Nd7 15.Ne4 Qe7 16.Bd3 Bd4+ 17.Kh1 b5 mit schwarzem Gegenspiel.]

11.Bd3

[11.h3 Ne4 12.Nxe4 Bxe4 13.Ng5 Re8 14.Nxe4 Rxe4 15.Bd3 Re8 16.a3 mit dem Plan ♖ab1 und b2.b4.In günstigerem Moment spielt Weiß f4-f5 mit Kontrolle des Spiels auf beiden Flügeln.]

11...Qd7 12.h3

[12.Bxf5 Qxf5 13.Nb5 Qd7 (13...Ne4 14.Ng5 Rfe8 15.Nxe4 Qxe4 16.Nxd6 Qd4+ 17.Kh1 Qxd1 18.Rxd1 Re2 19.Nxb7 1-0 Nguyen Chi Minh (2439)-Lamorelle,J (2170)/Malakoff 2009/EXT 2010/[Malakoff/Primel,D] Malakoff/Primel, D: 'suite illisible et gain blanc au 36ème coup') 14.f5 Nc7 15.fxg6 hxg6 16.a4 Nxb5 17.axb5 Ne4 18.Qc2 Rfe8 19.Ra3 Re7 20.Be3 a6 21.bxa6 bxa6 22.Rfa1 Rae8 23.Re1 Qg4 24.h3 Qg3 25.Kf1 g5 26.Rd3 g4 27.hxg4 Qxg4 28.Bf2 f5 29.Kg1 Nxf2 30.Rxe7 Nh3+ 31.Kh2 Rxe7 32.gxh3 Qe4 33.b3 a5 34.Qd1 Bh6 35.Rc3 Rg7 36.Rc2 Bf4+ 37.Kh1 a4 38.bxa4 Kf8 0-1 (39) Williams,S (2282)-Bjazevic,P (2245) ICCF 2008]

12...Nb4 13.Bxf5 Qxf5 14.a3 Nc2 15.Nh4 Qh5 16.Qxc2 Qxh4 17.Bd2 Ng4 18.Rf3 Bd4+ 19.Kh1 Nf2+ 20.Kh2 Ng4+ 21.Kh1 Rfe8 und Schwarz steht gut in I. Ivanov-Shaked Parsippany 1996

9...Bg4 Schwarz will seinen ♖amenflügel schnell entwickeln. 10.0-0 Nbd7

[10...Re8 11.Bd3 Nbd7 12.h3 Bxf3 13.Qxf3 Qb6 14.Rb1 Re7 15.Bd2 Rae8 16.Kh1 (16.g3 a6 17.g4 Qd8 18.Rbe1 h6 19.Rxe7 Rxe7 20.Re1 Rxe1+ 21.Bxe1 Qe7 22.Qe2 Qxe2 23.Nxe2 Kf8 24.Bd2 mit Endspielvorteil Taborska-Lexa Klatovy 2002) 16...a6 17.b3 Nh5 18.Na4 Qc7 19.g4 Nh6 20.Nc3 Nf8 21.Qg3 N6d7 22.Rf3 Bd4 23.Rbf1 Nf6 24.Bb1 Bxc3 25.Bxc3 Ne4 26.Bxe4 Rxe4 27.f5 g5 28.h4 h6 29.hxg5 hxg5 30.Qh3 Nh7 31.Qxh7+! Kurtzman-Howe ,Parsippany 2011]

11.Bd3

[Nach 11.h3 Bxf3 12.Bxf3 a6 13.a4 Re8 14.Bd2 Kh8 15.Qc2 Qc7 16.Rae1 Rxe1 17.Rxe1 Re8 18.b3 hat Weiß mit dem ♔paar bessere Perspektiven.Feletar-Bubalovic,Osijek 2014]

11...Re8 12.h3 Bxf3 13.Qxf3 Qb6 14.Rb1 Re7 15.Bd2 Rae8 16.g4 mit aktivem Spiel auf der rechten Seite.

9...b5!? Im Stil vom Wolgagambit 10.Nxb5

[10.cxb5 a6 11.0-0 (11.bxa6 Bxa6 12.0-0 Bxe2 13.Qxe2 Re8 14.Qd1 Qd7 und Schwarz hat alles unter Kontrolle.Nach weiterem 15.f5 Qxf5 16.Ng5 Qd7 17.Qf3 h6 18.Nh3 Ng4 19.Bf4 Ne5 20.Qg3 Na6 21.Ne4 f5 22.Nc3 Kh7 23.Qh4 Nc7 24.Rad1 Rab8 hat der Nachziehende die Initiative übernommen und die Partie schließlich gewonnen,Akvist-Johansson ,Falkoepping 1965) 11...axb5 12.Bxb5 Na6 (12...Qb6 13.Nd2 c4+ 14.Kh1 Ng4 15.Nxc4 Nf2+ 16.Rxf2 Qxf2 17.Be3 Qh4 18.Nxd6 Bg4 19.Qd2 Qe7 20.Nc4 Nd7 21.Bd4 Qb4 22.Bxg7 Kxg7 23.h3 Bf5 24.a3 Qa5 25.Nd6 Nf6 26.g4 Bd7 27.g5 Ne8 28.Qd4+ Kg8 29.Nxe8 Bxe8 30.Bc4 Qa7 31.Qxa7 Rxa7 32.Ne4 mit weißem gewinn, Tarlabasi-Tobak,Montevideo 2017) 13.Re1 Nc7 14.Bc6 Rb8 15.a4 Bd7 16.Bxd7 Qxd7 17.a5 Rb7 18.Qd3 Ra8 19.Nd2 Na6 20.Nc4 Nb4 21.Qd1 Ng4 und Schwarz hat den ausreichenden Ersatz für den geopferten Bauern,Schrimpl-Mislin, www.desc-online 2016]

10...Ne4 11.0-0 a6 12.Nc3

[Nach 12.Na3 Ra7 13.Bd3 Re7 14.Nc2 Rfe8 15.Re1 Nd7 16.Ne3 Ndf6 hat Schwarz seine Kräfte elastisch entwickelt.Thorbergsson-Tal Reykjavik 1964]

12...Nxc3 13.bxc3 Bxc3 14.Rb1 Re8 15.Bd3 Nd7 16.Bb2 Bxb2 17.Rxb2 Nf6 18.Qc2 Ng4 19.Qb1 Ra7 20.Re1 Rae7 21.Rbe2 Rxe2 22.Rxe2 Rxe2 23.Bxe2 Qe7 24.Qd3 Bf5 25.Qd2 Qe3+ 26.Qxe3 Nxe3 27.Kf2 Nc2 28.Nd2 h5 mit etwa gleichen Chancen,Goetgeluck.Benoit,Ybbs 1968

⁷⁴ **10.0-0** a) 10...Nc7 ChessPublishing.com: '!' Mikhail Golubev: '!'

[10...Re8 0.23/33 Stockfish 15.1: '=' Stockfish 15.1: 'bleibt in der Remisbreite.' RR: '♠' Bellmann,Herbert(GER)SM: '='

A) Prophylaxis against two of Black's main plans (...Ne4 and ...Bf5), although just like after 11...Bf5, 11.Bd3 has been a more popular alternative. Nc7 (ChessBase II: 'RR' 11...Ng4 12.h3 Nh6 13.g4 f5 14.g5 Nf7 15.a3 Bd7 16.Bd2 Nc7 17.Rb1 a6 18.h4 b5 19.b3 b4 20.axb4 cxb4 21.Ne2 a5 22.Ng3 Na6 23.Re1 Qb6+ 24.Kg2 Nc5 25.Bc2 Rab8 26.Rxe8+ ChessBase II: 'Glavas,D (2337)-Cebalo,M (2505)/Sibenik 2006/CBM 114 ext/1/2-1/2 (63)' Rxe8 27.Qg1 Qc7 28.h5 a4 29.hxg6 hxg6 30.Nd4 axb3 31.Nxb3 Ba4 32.Qd1 Na6 33.Qf1 Nd8 34.Nd4 Bd7 35.Nf3 Nb7 36.Nh4 Nbc5 37.Nxg6 Ne4 38.Bxe4 fxe4 39.Be3 Bg4 40.f5 Bf3+ 41.Kg1 Glavas,D (2337)-Cebalo, M (2505) Sibenik 2006 ½-½ (63); 11...Nb4 12.Bb1) 12.a4 b6 (12...Na6!?) 13.f5 Ng4 14.Bg5!N (14.fxg6 fxg6 15.Bg5 Bf6 16.Bxf6 Qxf6 17.Ne4 Qf4 18.h3 Qe3+ 19.Kh1 Rxe4 20.Bxe4 Nf2+ 21.Rxf2 Qxf2 22.Qd3 Qxb2 23.Rf1 Qf6 24.Nd2 Qg7 25.Qg3 Ne8 26.Bd3 Bd7 27.Ne4 Qe5 28.Qf3

Qe7 29.g4 Bxa4 30.g5 Bd7 31.Qg3 Qe5 32.Qh4 Bf5 33.Re1 Qd4 34.Qg3 Bxe4+ 35.Rxe4 Qa1+ 36.Re1 Qg7 37.h4 a5 38.h5 gxh5 39.Re6 a4 40.g6 a3 41.Bb1 h6 42.Qe3 Qf8 43.Re7 Ng7 Horvath,J (2240)-Gal,S Hungary 1992 0-1 (78)) 14...Bf6 15.Qd2 Ne5?! 16.fxc6

A1) 16...hxc6 17.Bxf6 Qxf6 18.Ne4↑ Nxf3+ 19.Rxf3 Qd4+ 20.Qf2 Rxe4 21.Bxe4 Qxf2+ (21...Qxe4 22.Rxf7+-) 22.Rxf2 Bd7 23.Bd3 Rf8;

A2) 16...fxg6?! 17.Bxf6 Qxf6 18.Ne4 Nxf3+ 19.Rxf3 Qd4+ 20.Qf2 Rxe4? 21.Bxe4 Qxf2+ 22.Rxf2 Bd7 23.Bd3 (23.Raf1) 23...Rf8 24.Rxf8+ Kxf8 25.Rf1+ Kg7 26.a5 b5 27.b4! cxb4 28.cxb5 Bxb5 29.Rc1 Bxd3 30.Rxc7+ 1-0 (30) Nguyen,C (2389)-Bourgois,B (2026) Sautron 2013 EXT 2016 [RR];

B) 11.h3

B1) Black doesn't want to be squeezed by 11...Bf5 12.g4 Bd7 (but here 12...Ne4!? may not be so bad for him: 13.gxf5 Bxc3 14.fxc6 hxc6 15.Bd3 Bg7 16.Re1 is the critical response, but one which leads to no more than a rather unclear position after f5 17.Bxe4 fxe4 18.Ng5 Qc8) 13.Bd3 .;

B2) I dare say that the immediate 11...Ne4 is also possible, although after 12.Nxe4 Rxe4 13.Bd3 Re8 White has a reasonable choice between

B2a) and 14.f5!?. The latter is quite dangerous and may well force Black to grab on f5, since Nb4?! 15.Bb1 b5 16.a3 leaves him struggling whether he retreats to a6, sacrifices a piece with bxc4 à la Pavlovic, (and especially if he allows 16...Qa5? 17.Ng5! when White comes crashing through on the kingside.);

B2b) 14.a3;

B3) 11...Nc7 12.a4 (This is now essential, as 12.Bd3?! b5 13.cxb5 Ncxd5 enables Black to regain his pawn without delay.) 12...Na6 13.Bd3 Nb4 14.Bb1

B3a) 14...Bd7 15.f5 a6 16.fxc6 hxc6 17.Bg5 Qc7 18.Qd2 Nh7 19.Qf4 f5 20.Qh4 b5 21.axb5 axb5 22.Rxa8 Rxa8 23.cxb5 Re8 24.g4 Bc8 25.gxf5 gxf5 26.Bf4 Nf6 27.Ng5 c4 28.Rd1 Qc5+ 29.Kh2? (29.Qf2) 29...Nbx5 30.Nxd5? Re2+? 31.Kh1 Bb7 32.Bxf5?? (32.Be4+-) 32...Bxd5+ 33.Rxd5 Qxd5+ 0-1 (33) Lalande,J (2030)-Rouler,C (2291) Aix les Bains 2011 CBM 142 Extra [ChessBase II];

B3b) 14...a6 15.f5! gxf5 16.Bg5 mit Angriffsmöglichkeiten auf dem rechten Flügel,Agdestein-T.Hansen,Drammen 2018]

[d) 10...Bd7 11.Bd3 Nb4 '!' (more ambitious than 11...Nc7 when perhaps White might do without 13 a4 and prefer 12.f5!?) 12.Bb1 b5

A) 13.a3 bxc4 '!' (ambitious, especially with 13...Qb6 available, although then 14.cxb5! c4+ 15.Kh1 Nd3 16.Bxd3 cxd3 17.Qxd3 Ng4 18.a4! may not give Black enough for his pawns, as Nf2+ 19.Rxf2 Qxf2 20.Ne4 Qb6 21.Be3 leaves White in control and with more than enough for the exchange) 14.axb4 cxb4 15.Ne2 Qb6+ Van Ketel,R (2295) -Pavlovic,M (2515)/Leiden LCT op 2nd 2008 (7)/0-1 16.Kh1 a5 17.f5 Rfe8 was a very creative sacrifice

to give Black two pawns and free play for the piece in R.Van Ketel-M.Pavlovic, Leiden 2008, although I'm not certain that he would have had objectively enough had White found 18.Ng5!?, fighting for the initiative and preparing to meet Ng4 with 19.Qe1! .;

B) 13.Nxb5 Bxb5 14.cxb5 Qb6]

more provocative than the alternative 11.a4 ChessPublishing.com: 'Flear,G-Hebden,M/Southend ENG 2009 (by transposition).' Trajko Nedev: '(G. Flear - M. Hebden, Southend 2009)'

[Nach Mikhail Golubev: 'Instead, Palliser suggests' 11.Bd3 folgt Mikhail Golubev: '!?' Mikhail Golubev: 'and if' '!?']

A) 11...Rb8 12.f5! b5 13.fxg6 fxg6 (quite possibly 13...hxxg6 14.cxb5 a6 is a better try, preparing to meet 16 a4 with exchanges on b5 and ...Bd7; thus White probably does better with 15.bxa6!? Bxa6 16.Bxa6 Nxa6 17.Nd2! , which should suffice for a pull and Re8 18.Nc4 Ne4 19.Bf4 f5 20.Rc1 certainly does so, because Bd4+ 21.Kh1 Nf2+? 22.Rxf2 Bxf2 backfires after 23.Qf1! Bd4 24.Nxd6) 14.cxb5 Kh8 15.Bg5 Qd7 16.Bc4 left White in control of the position (a6 can be well met by 17.a4!) and Black's ...b5-break looking premature in B.Laurent-A.Wallart, French League 2003.;

B) before we move on, it's worth noting that 11...Bf5? would be misplaced here, because 12.Bxf5 gxf5 13.Qd3 Qd7 14.Nh4 simply picks off a pawn;

C) Black preferred the critical 11...b5! mit Gegenspiel. '!?' 12.cxb5 a6 13.bxa6 Bxa6 14.f5 Qb8 (as in Van der Plas-Avruckh, Amsterdam 2005) then in R.Van der Plas-B.Avruckh, Amsterdam 2005, and now 15.fxg6 hxg6 16.Ng5!?

... Seems to be quite complicated! was well worth a try, preparing to keep d5 defended and to create some pressure with Qb7 17.Bxa6 Rxa6 18.Qf3]

11...Na6

[11...Bf5 12.h3 Ne4 Equal chances, active position. 13.Nxe4 Bxe4]

12.Bd3 Nb4 13.Bb1 Bf5 Mikhail Golubev: '!?'

[A risky, but at the same time typical method of obtaining control of the e4 square. After 13...Re8 White can decide between 14.f5!? , 15.Ra3 and 15.h3]

14.Bxf5 gxf5 15.Nh4 Qd7 Mikhail Golubev: 'This very complex game seems to be important for the theory of the line with 8...c5 please consider further suggestions as hints for deeper study.' 16.h3 Mikhail Golubev: 'N' Mikhail Golubev: 'Preventing ...Ng4.'

[Not very impressive is 16.Bd2 Rfe8 17.Qb1 Ne4 18.Be1 as in Nguyen Chi Minh-Ippolito, Creon 2008, though White won this game later.]

16...Rae8

[For the comparison, 16...Rfe8 transposes to Leitao-Ju.Polgar, Sao Paulo 1996 (the move order there was 10.d5 Re8 11.0-0 Nf6). There followed 17.Ra3 We've followed the game R.Leitao-J.Polgar, Sao Paulo 1996, which continued Kh8 (Probably Hazai's suggestion of 17...Ne4!? was a better defence, although after 18.Nxe4 fxe4 19.Rg3 Kh8 20.Qh5 Palliser I would still rather take White who has seized the initiative.) 18.Ne2 Ne4 19.Ng3 Nxxg3 20.Rxxg3 Rg8 and now

21.Rg5! is much better for White (Moskalenko/Palliser) (21.Qh5 Bd4+ 22.Kh2 Rxc3 23.Kxc3 wasn't so clear in the game) 21...Bd4+ 22.Kh2 Rxc3 23.fxc3 Be5+ 24.Bf4 would have maintained control and some advantage due to Black's crippled f-pawns. Rolling Forwards-A12: 9...exd6]

17.Ra3 Kh8

[Also here 17...Ne4 18.Nxe4 fxe4 19.Rg3! seems to be unsafe for Black, but after Kh8 the rook on f8 (instead of a8!) can be useful.]

18.Ne2 Ne4

[Basically, ...Ne4 followed by the exchange on g3 is a concession. But what to do instead? Very risky for Black seems to be 18...Re4 19.Ng3 Rxc4 where White captures on f5 with one of his knights]

[Otherwise, 18...Nh5 19.Ng3 Bd4+ 20.Kh2 (or 20.Kh1) 20...Ng7 21.Nf3 Bf6 looks somewhat passive.]

19.Ng3 Nxc3

[Hard to be sure that Black will get enough for the pawn after 19...Bd4+ 20.Kh2 Rg8]

20.Rxc3 mit weißem Angriff ,Flear-Hebden,Southend 2009. 20...Rg8

[The line 20...Bf6 21.Qh5 Bxh4 22.Qxh4 f6 most probably favours White. Black controls the e-file at the moment but he has too many weaknesses]

21.Qh5

[I am afraid that even with a black rook on e8, 21.Rg5! can be better for White]

21...Bd4+ 22.Kh2 Rxc3 23.Kxc3 Rg8+!?

[A similar position, but with a black rook on a8 (instead of e8) occurred in the aforementioned game Leitao-Polgar. There 23...Qe7? 24.Nxf5 Qe4 was refuted by 25.Nh6!]

24.Kh2 Indeed, Polgar could also have obtained this position in her game.

24...Qxa4?

[24...Qe8 (with counterplay) was suggested by GM Moskalenko in New in Chess Yearbook 85!]

25.Qxf5?

[Missing 25.Qxf7! with a decisive advantage: Qc2 (or 25...Nd3 26.Be3!) 26.Be3!! with the idea of Bxe3 27.Qf6+ Rg7 28.Qf8+ Rg8 29.Ng6+ hxc6 30.Qh6# .]

25...Qb3 26.Nf3 Qxc4?! 27.Ng5 Qd3 28.Nxf7+ Kg7 29.Nxd6! Now White is better again. 29...Qxf5

[After 29...Qxf1?? 30.Qd7+ Black is mated by force.]

30.Nxf5+ Kf6 31.Nxd4

[More precise might have been 31.g4!?]

31...cxd4 32.Rd1 Nc2! 33.Rd2 Rc8 34.Re2 Na1!? 35.Bd2 Rd8 36.Kg3

[An interesting possibility was 36.Re5!? with the idea of Nb3 37.Bb4 d3 38.Be7+ Kf7 39.d6! d2 40.Rd5]

36...Rxd5 37.Kf3 Nb3 38.g4 Rc5?! 39.f5! a5

[Not 39...Rc2? 40.Bg5+]

[but 39...Rd5!? deserved attention]

40.Bf4 Now White is clearly better, and he converted the advantage after 40...b5
41.Re6+ Kf7 42.Rd6 Ke8 43.f6 b4 44.g5 Rc7 45.h4 Rd7?! 46.Rxd7! Kxd7
47.h5 Ke6 48.g6! hxg6 49.h6 Kxf6 50.Be5+! Kxe5 51.h7 a4 52.h8Q+ Kd5
53.Qa8+ Kc4 54.Qa6+ Kc5 55.Qxa4 Nd2+ 56.Ke2 Nc4 57.Qa7+ Kd5 58.Qf7+
Kc5 59.Qf8+ Kb5 60.b3 Na5 61.Qb8+ Kc5 62.Qe5+ 1-0 (63) Flear,G (2485)-
Hebden,M (2510) Southend ENG 2009 [Mikhail Golubev]

⁷⁵ **10...Bg4** 11.0-0 Re8 12.h3 Bxf3 13.Rxf3 Ne4 14.Nxe4 Rxe4 15.Bd3 Bd4+
16.Kh1 Re8 17.f5 mit weißer Initiative Tsarouha-Tello Patino ,Kemer 2009.

⁷⁶ **13.Bd3** b5 14.b3 Ng4 15.Ne4 f5 16.Nf2 Nxf2 17.Raxf2 bxc4 18.bxc4 Rb8
19.Kh1 Qf6 20.h3 mit dem Plan g2-g4 und Königsangriff,Dierssen Garcia Barredo-
Garcia Ruiz Fuentes,San Sebastian 2012

⁷⁷ **10...Ng4** 11.h3 Ne3 12.Bxe3 Rxe3 13.Qd2 Re8
[13...Re7 14.Bd3 f5 15.Rae1 Na6 16.Rxe7 Qxe7 17.Re1 Qf6 18.Re8+ Bf8
19.Nb5 Kf7 20.Re2 h6 21.Qe1 Qd8 22.Nh4 Be7 23.Re6!+- Oswald-Sieber,
Deutschland 2002]

14.Bd3
[14.Rae1 Nd7 15.Bd3 Rxe1 16.Rxe1 Nf6 17.f5 Bd7 18.g4 mit weißer
Initiative,Orsg-Weiss,Deutschland 2006]

14...Nd7 15.Rae1 Rxe1
[15...Nf6 16.f5 a6 17.Rxe8+ Qxe8 18.g4 gxf5 19.gxf5 Bd7 20.Kh1 Kh8
21.Qf4 h6 22.Ne4 Nxe4 23.Bxe4 Qe7 24.Nd2 Qf6 25.Bg2 Re8 26.Ne4 Qe5
27.Nxd6 Qxf4 28.Rxf4 Re1+ 29.Rf1 Rxf1+ 30.Bxf1 Bxb2 31.Nxb7 Bd4
32.Bd3 Kg7 33.Kg2 ½-½ (33) Mesquita Jr.,F (2355)-Efanov,N (2350) ICCF 2013]

16.Rxe1 Nf6 17.g4
[17.f5 Nd7 18.fxc6 hxg6 19.Ne4 Ne5 20.Nxe5 Bxe5 21.Ng5 Bd7 22.Rf1 Bf6
23.Qf4 Bf5 24.Nxf7 Kxf7 25.Bxf5 gxf5 26.Qxf5 Kg7 27.Qg4+ Kf7 28.Qf5 Kg7
mit Remis,Orenda-Bolobrk,Pula 2000]

17...Bd7 18.f5 Jerzy Konikowski: 'mit weißer Initiative,Orsg-Weiss,Deutschland 2006'
18...gxf5 19.Bxf5 Bxf5 20.gxf5 Qd7 21.Qf4 Re8 22.Kf2
[22.Rf1 Nh5 23.Qg5 Nf6=]

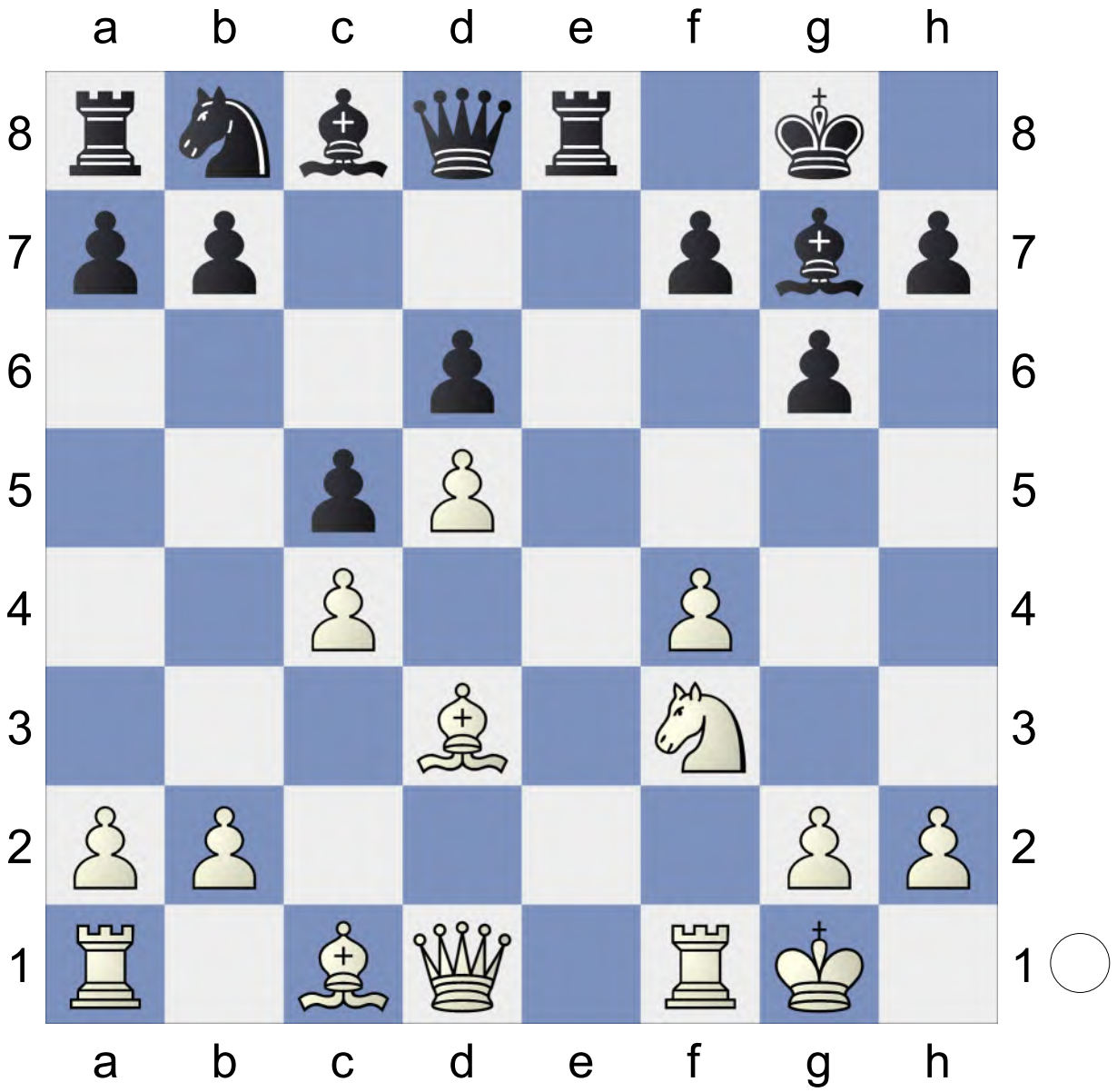
22...Rxe1 23.Kxe1 Qe7+ 24.Kd2 a6 25.b3 Kf8= Bilek-R.Byrne,Warna 1962

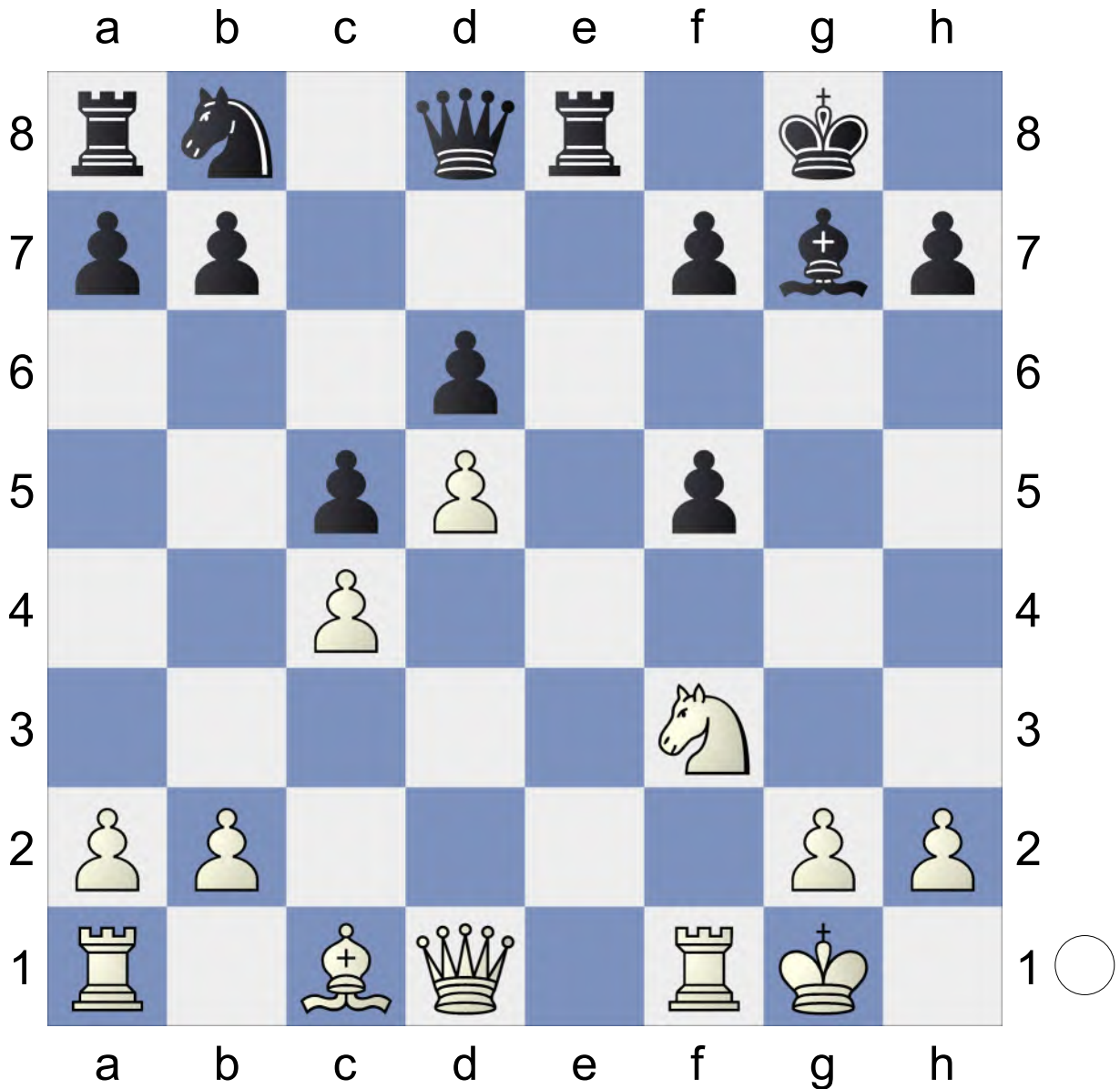
10...Ne4 1.26/35 E77: Königsindisch (Vierbauern-Variante). 11.Nxe4± Rxe4
12.Bd3 Re8

(Diagram)

Weiß steht besser. 13.f5! Bxf5 14.Bxf5 gxf5

(Diagram)





15.g3N

[Vorgänger: 15.Bg5 Qb6 16.Qd3 Re4 17.Rae1 Nd7 18.Rxe4 fxe4 19.Qxe4 Qxb2 20.Qe7 Ne5 21.Nxe5 Bxe5 22.Qxf7+ 1-0 (28) Garces Mestre,D-Garcia Contreras,R Cullera 2004]

15...Re4 2.63/37

[15...Nd7± 1.23/33]

16.Nh4+- Rxh4 17.gxh4 Bd4+ 3.48/29

[17...Qxh4 2.47/31 kämpft weiter. 18.Bf4 (18.Rxf5 Qxc4 19.Qf3 Nd7±) 18...Nd7]

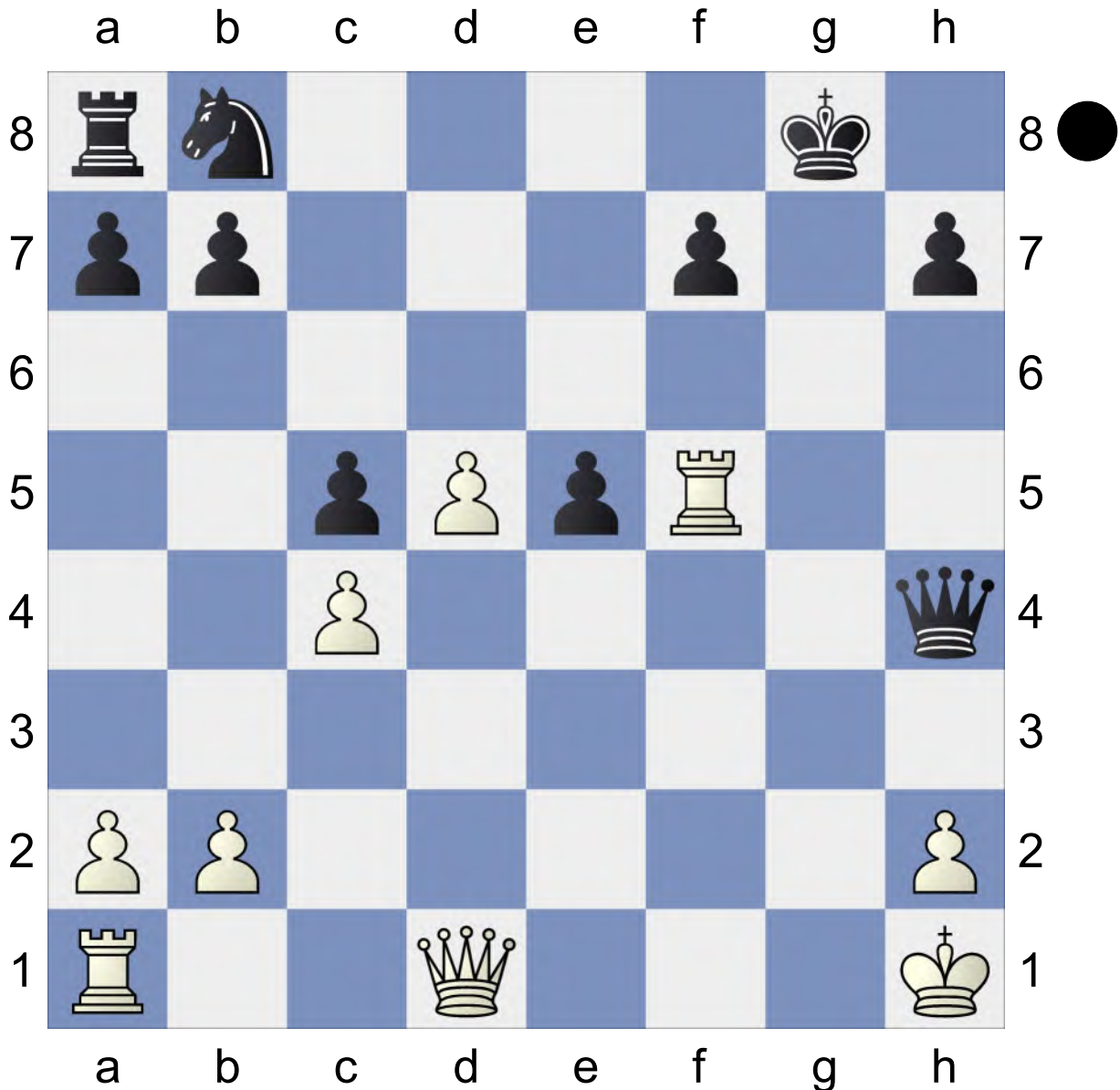
18.Kh1 Qxh4 19.Bf4

[Weniger gut wäre 19.Rxf5 Qe4+ 20.Qf3 Qe1+ 21.Qf1 Qxf1+ 22.Rxf1 Nd7±]

19...Be5? 4.72/29

[19...Nd7 2.86/32 ist wohl besser. 20.Qc2 (20.Bxd6 Qe4+ 21.Qf3 Re8±)

20...Qf6]
 20.Bxe5 Weiß steht klar auf Gewinn. 20...dxe5 21.Rxf5



Zielt auf Df3 ab. 21...Qe4+ 22.Qf3 Qxf3+ 23.Rxf3 Nd7 24.Rg1+ Kf8 25.Rh3 Nf6 26.Rf1 Kg7 Weiß übernahm nach der Eröffnung die Kontrolle. Gewichteter Fehlerwert: Weiß=0.00 (makellos) /Schwarz=0.59 1-0 (26) Guevara i Pijoan,J (2309)-Aannevik,B (1207) ICCF 2019 Kommentierte Partien2024 [Stockfish 15.1]

⁷⁸ **12.h3** As long as Black retains control over the e4 square all will be well, Peng,Z-Polgar,J/Novi Sad Ol 1990.

⁷⁹ **13.Qxd3** Na6 14.a3 Nc7 15.Bd2 b5⇐ Colin, V - Hebden, M Guernsey 2013.

80 **9...b5?! 10.e5**

81 **10...Bxf3?! A strange move, losing a tempo, as White's plan is to play h3 anyway.** Methling,Ludger: 'Ein seltsamer Zug, der ein Tempo verliert, da Weiß ohnehin h3 plant.' 11.Bxf3 Nbd7 Methling,Ludger: 'Möglich war hier auch evtl.' 12.g4! A typical plan. Now Black has to create counterplay on the queenside, as White's attack looks dangerous. Methling,Ludger: 'Ein typischer Plan. Nun muss Schwarz am Damenflügel ein Gegenspiel erzeugen, da der Angriff von Weiß gefährlich scheint.'

[12.a4 a6 13.a5 (13.Be3 Re8 14.Qe2 Qa5 15.Kh1 Re7 16.g4 h6 17.Qc2 c4 18.Rad1 Rd8 19.e5 Nh7 20.e6 Qb4 21.f5 g5 22.Ne4 Ndf6 23.Bd2 Qb6 24.Qxc4 Nxe4 25.Bxe4 Bxb2 26.Bf3 Be5 27.Rb1 Qa7 28.Qd3 Kg7 29.Be3 Qb8 30.Rfe1 Rc8 31.Bd2 Nf6 32.a5 Ree8 33.Rb6 Qc7 34.Rxe5 dxe5 35.d6 Qc2 36.Qe3 fxe6 37.Rxb7+ Kg8 38.d7 Nxd7 39.Rxd7 Qc4 40.Kg1 Rcd8 41.fxe6 Qxe6 42.Bd5 Rxd7 43.Bxe6+ Rxe6 44.Qc3 Kf7 45.Be3 Kg7 46.Qc8 Red6 47.Qe8 Rd5 48.Bc5 Rf7 49.Bb4 Rf4 50.Bc3 Rxg4+ 51.Kf2 Rf4+ 52.Ke3 Rf6 53.Bxe5 Rxe5+ 54.Qxe5 Kf7 55.Qc7+ Ke6 56.Qc2 Kd5 57.Qd3+ Ke5 58.Qd4+ Ke6 59.Qc4+ Ke7 60.Qb3 Kd6 61.Qb7 Ke5 62.Qe4+ Kd6 63.Kd3 Re6 64.Qd4+ Ke7 65.Kc4 Rc6+ 66.Kb4 Rg6 67.Qa7+ Kf8 68.Qb8+ Kf7 69.Qc7+ Kg8 70.Qd8+ Kg7 71.Qe7+ Kg8 72.Kc5 g4 73.Qe8+ Kh7 74.Qf7+ Rg7 75.Qf5+ Rg6 76.Kd5 Kg7 77.Ke4 Kh7 78.Kf4 Kg7 79.Kg3 1-0 (79) Udvari,N (2014)-Uifelean,A (1892) Lechenicher SchachServer 2007; 13.Re1 Re8 14.a5 h5 15.h3 Nh7 16.Be3 b5 17.axb6 Qxb6 18.Na4 Qb4 19.Bd2 Qc4 20.Be3 Rab8 21.Qe2 Qxe2 22.Rxe2 Bd4 23.Kf1 Bxe3 24.Rxe3 f5 25.Nc3 Rb6 26.Ree1 fxe4 27.Bxe4 Nh7 28.Bd3 Rxe1+ 29.Kxe1 Rxb2 30.Rxa6 Nb6 31.Bb5 Nc8 32.g3 Rb4 33.Bd3 h4 34.gxh4 Rxf4 35.Be2 Kg7 36.Bg4 Ne7 37.Rxd6 Rd4 38.Kf2 ½-½ (38) Salomone,N (1472)-Ferluga,S (1224) Lechenicher SchachServer 2011) 13...b5 14.axb6 Qxb6 15.Kh1

A) 15...Rfe8 16.Re1 (16.Qd3 Reb8 17.Ra4 Ne8 18.Bg4 Bxc3 19.bxc3 Nef6 20.Bd1 c4 21.Rxc4 Nc5 22.Qc2 Qb5 23.Be2 Qb1 24.Qxb1 Rxb1 25.e5 Nb3 26.Ba3 Rxf1+ 27.Bxf1 dxe5 28.d6 Nd2 29.fxe5 Nxc4 30.Bxc4 Ng4 31.e6 Rb8 32.g3 Ne3 33.exf7+ Kg7 34.Ba2 1-0 (34) Kosikov,A (2395)-Kuzovkin,A Beltsy 1979) 16...c4 17.Ra4 Qb3 18.Be3 Qxb2 19.Rxc4 Rac8 20.Re2 Qb7 21.Rc6 Rxc6 22.dxc6 Qxc6 23.Rc2 Qc4 24.Qxd6 Qf1+ 25.Bg1 Bf8 26.Qd2 Nc5 27.Be2 Qa1 28.e5 Nfd7 Black has lost on time, adj. 1-0 1-0 (28) Schubert,V (2056)-Loriguillo Gonzalez,G (1821) BdF-Schachserver 2011;

B) 15...Rfc8 16.Qe2 Ne8 17.g4± (17.Bg4!/?± Rd8 18.e5 dxe5 19.Bxd7 Rxd7 20.fxe5 Re7 21.e6 fxe6 22.Bg5 Rb7 23.dxe6 Qxb2 24.Qf3 Rab8 25.Rab1 Qxb1 26.Nxb1 Rxb1 27.h4 h6 28.Be3 Nd6 29.Bf4 R8b3 30.Bxd6 Rxf3 31.Rxb1 Re3 32.Rb8+ Kh7 33.e7 Be5 34.Bxe5 1-0 (34) Kaplun,L (2300)-Petrushin,A (2390) Rostov 1980) 17...Rcb8 18.g5 a5 19.Qg2 Qd8 20.Bd1 Rb4 21.Ba4 Ra7 22.f5 Be5 23.Qf3 Qe7 24.Nd1 Bd4 25.f6 Qd8

26.Ra2 Ne5 27.Qh3 h5 28.gxh6 Kh7 29.b3 c4 30.bxc4 Qb8 31.c5 dxc5
 32.Qg2 Nxf6 33.Rxf6 Rxa4 34.Rxa4 Qb1 35.Rxd4 cxd4 36.Bb2 Qxd1+
 37.Qg1 Qxg1+ 38.Kxg1 Ng4 39.Rf3 Re7 40.Bxd4 Rxe4 41.Rxf7+ Kxh6
 42.Bc3 Ne5 43.Rf8 Re3 44.Rh8+ Kg7 45.Rc8 Kf7 46.Rc7+ Kf6 47.Kf2
 Re4 48.Rc5 Ke7 49.Rxa5 Kd6 50.Ra6+ ½-½ (50) Llorente Alvarez, J (2193)-
 Keber, E (2269) ICCF 2016 Kommentierte Partien 2024 [Methling, Ludger]

[12.Re1 Ne8 13.Be3 a6 14.Rc1 (14.a4 Nc7 15.Bf2 Rb8 16.a5 Re8 17.Qd2
 b5 18.axb6 Rxb6 19.Ra2= The position is objectively equal, although a touch
 more comfortable for White. I. Cruz Gomez - K. Miton, La Laguna 2010) 14...b5
 15.a3 Nc7 16.b4± White has a slight spatial advantage.]

12...Ne8

[12...a6 13.a4 h6!? 14.h4! h5?! (14...Rb8 15.g5 Ne8 16.Kg2±) 15.g5!
 (15.gxh5? Nxh5 16.Bxh5 Qxh4!) 15...Ng4 16.Bxg4 Bd4+ 17.Kg2 hxg4
 18.Qxg4 Re8 19.f5 Qe7 20.a5 Bxc3 21.bxc3 Qxe4+ 22.Qxe4 Rxe4 23.fxg6
 fxg6 24.Bf4±]

13.g5 Nc7 14.h4! An engine suggests moves stopping Black's initiative on the
 queenside, for instance 14.a4. During the game I was also hesitating, but I came
 to the conclusion that White's attack was faster and more dangerous. Why lose
 time on defensive moves then? Methling, Ludger: 'Ein Vorschlag der Engines,
 die schwarze Initiative am ♖flügel wird gestoppt, zum Beispiel mit 14.a4. Der
 weiße Angriff ist schneller als die schwarze Initiative am ♜amenflügel.'

[14.a4 a6 (14...Na6) 15.Qc2]

[14.Bg4 Bd4+ 15.Kh1 Qe7 16.Ne2 Bg7 17.Ng3= The position is objectively
 equal, although a touch more comfortable for White. J. Parker - T. Radjabov,
 Kallithea 2008]

14...b5 15.h5

[15.a4!? An interesting possibility, taking away a route to d4 for Black's knight.
 Methling, Ludger: 'Eine interessante Möglichkeit, die schwarze ♞er Route über b5
 nach d4 zu nehmen.' b4 (15...a6 16.h5) 16.Ne2]

15...b4

[15...Nb6 16.Kg2 (16.a4!?) 16...Nc4 17.Rh1 b4 18.Na4→]

16.Ne2 f6

[16...Nb5 17.Kg2 c4 18.hxg6! (18.Rh1 Nc5 19.hxg6 fxg6 20.Qc2 c3∞)
 18...fxg6 19.Rb1! Prophylactic. Methling, Ludger: 'Prophylaktisch' (19.Bg4 Nc5)
 19...Nc5 (19...Qa5 20.Be3 Qxa2 21.Bg4 Rf7 22.Qd2→; 19...c3 20.bxc3 Nxc3
 21.Nxc3 bxc3 22.Bg4 Nc5 23.Be3 Nxe4 24.Be6+ Kh8 25.Rh1+-) 20.Qc2 c3
 21.bxc3 Na3 22.Bxa3 bxa3 23.Bg4±]

17.hxg6 hxg6

[17...fxg5? 18.gxh7+ Kxh7 19.e5! dxe5 (19...gxf4 20.exd6 Ne8 21.Qd3+ Kh8
 22.Bg2!±) 20.fxg5±]

18.gxf6 Qxf6 19.Kg2 Rae8 Methling, Ludger: 'Es ist typisch für den 4-Bauern-Angriff,
 dass Weiß auf beiden Flügeln spielt.' 20.Ng3? A huge mistake, wasting a
 significant part of the advantage.

[It is typical for the 4-pawn attack that White plays on both wings. 20.a3!
After this move ♖a1 enters the game. Moreover, Black's counterplay with ...c4 is getting stopped. Methling,Ludger: 'Nach diesem Zug betritt ♖a1 das Spiel. Außerdem wird das schwarze Gegenspiel mit ...-c4 gestoppt.'

A) 20...a5 21.axb4 axb4 22.Ra7 Qd8 23.Qa4±;

B) 20...a6 21.axb4 cxb4 22.Ra4 Rb8 23.Qd2 Nc5 24.Rxb4 Nb3 25.Qc3 Qxc3 26.bxc3 Rxb4 27.cxb4 Rb8 28.e5! Nxc1 (28...dxe5 29.d6+-) 29.Rxc1 Ne8 30.e6±;

C) 20...bxa3 21.Rxa3 a6 22.Ng3 Bh6 23.Be2±]

20...c4! Black is getting active. During the game I thought the last move of my opponent wasn't possible due to 21.♖a4. 21.Qa4

[21.Be2!? Nc5 (21...c3 22.bxc3 bxc3 23.Rb1 Nc5 24.Rb4!±) 22.e5! dxe5 23.d6 Nd3!? (23...N7e6 24.f5! gxf5 25.Rxf5 Qh4 26.Qd5!±) 24.fxe5 Qxe5 25.Bxd3 cxd3 26.Rxf8+ Rxf8 27.dxc7 Qd5+ 28.Kh3 Qd7+ 29.Qg4 Qxc7 30.Bd2±]

21...Nc5

[After the game both players concluded that 21...c3!? could be a better version for Black. 22.bxc3 (22.Qxd7 cxb2 23.Bxb2 Qxb2+ 24.Kh3 Qd2! 25.Qxc7 Qxf4 26.Bh5! Qg5 27.Qc1 Qxc1 28.Rxf8+ Rxf8 29.Rxc1 gxf5 30.Nf5 Bc3=; 22.e5?! dxe5 23.Qxd7 exf4 24.bxc3 Rf7 25.Qc6 Qxc6 26.dxc6 fxg3 27.Rb1 bxc3) 22...Nc5 23.Qxb4 Nd3 24.e5! dxe5 (24...Nxb4 25.exf6 Bxf6 26.Be4 Nbx d5 27.Bxg6±) 25.Qc4 Nxc1 26.Raxc1 exf4 27.d6+ Ne6 28.Bd5 Kh7 29.d7 Qg5 30.Rf3]

22.Qxb4 Nd3 23.Qxc4 Nxf4+ 24.Bxf4 Qxf4 25.Be2!

[25.Qxc7?? Be5-+]

[25.Qc1?! Qh4 26.Rh1 Qf6 27.Rf1 Qxb2+ (27...Qe7)]

25...Qg5 26.Qc1! Qe7 27.Qd2 Rxf1?!

[27...Rb8 28.Rxf8+ Rxf8 29.Rh1 Ne8 (29...a6 30.a4 a5! with good drawing chances.) 30.b4 Nf6]

28.Rxf1 Rf8 29.Rxf8+ Qxf8 30.Qg5 Kh7 31.Qh4+ Bh6 32.Qg4 Qg7 33.b4 Qe7

34.Bd3 Bg5 35.e5?? An extremely bad move, wasting the whole advantage. Black was already almost defenceless. White should have advanced his pawns on the queenside.

[35.b5 Ne8 36.a4 Kh6 37.a5±]

35...Qxe5 36.Qh5+ Kg8 37.Bxg6 Kf8 38.Qf3+ Qf4 39.Be4 ½-½ (39) Dragun,K (2614)-Lagarde,M (2601) Teplice 2017 CBM 179 [Dragun,Kamil]

10...Re8 11.h3 Bxf3 12.Bxf3 Na6 13.e5!?

[13.Re1 Nd7 14.Be3 c4 15.Bd4 Nb4 16.Bxg7 Kxg7 17.Be2∞]

[13.Kh1 c4 14.e5 dxe5 15.fxe5 Rxe5 16.Bf4 (Stockfish 6 - Fire 4, Internet 2015) Ne8 17.Bxe5 Bxe5 18.Qe1 Bc7 19.Qf2± White can increase his advantage with accurate play.]

13...dxe5 14.fxe5 Rxe5 15.Bf4±

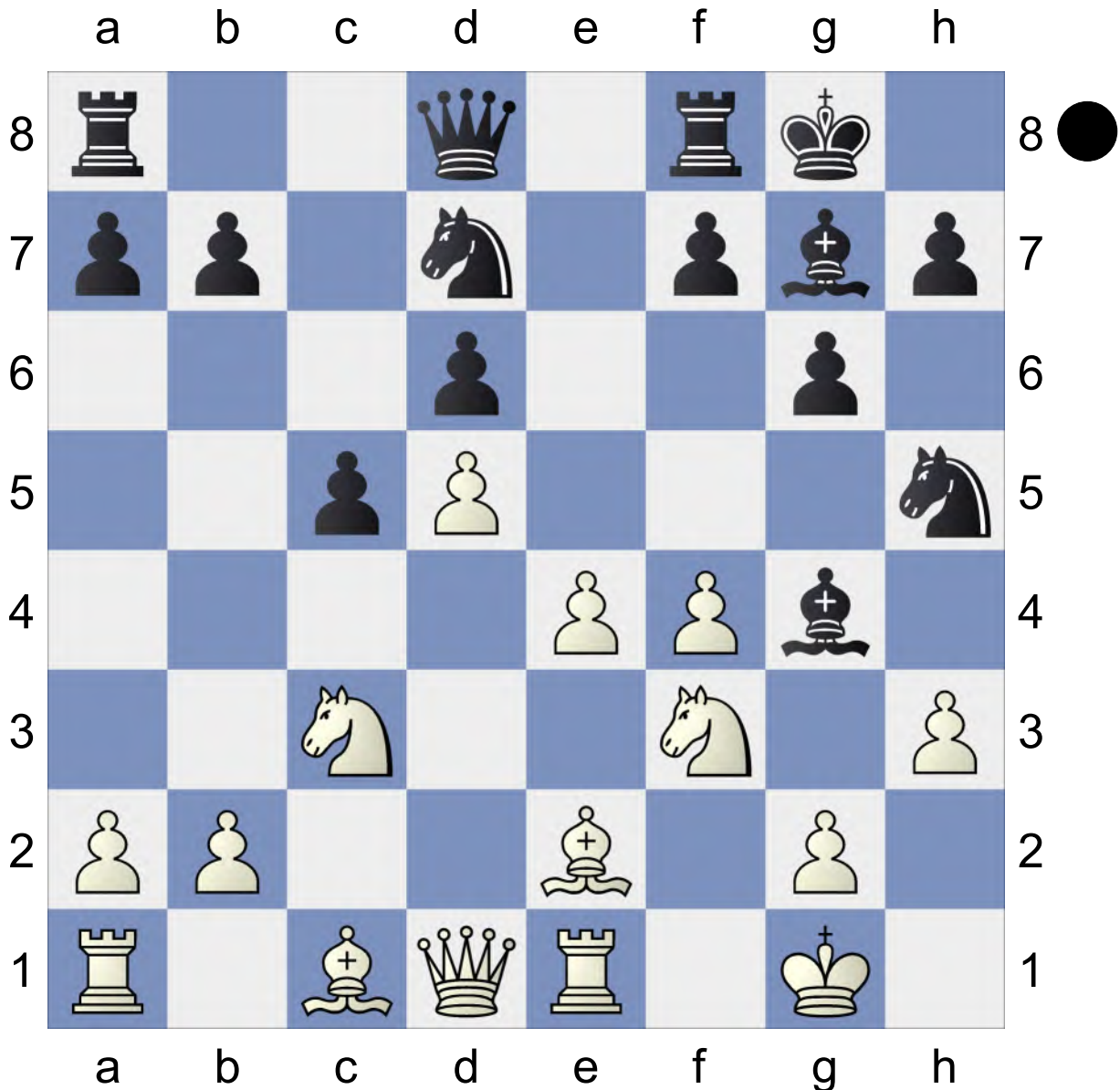
Eine interessante Alternative ist **10...Nfd7** Schwarz verhindert radikal den

Bauern Vorstoß e4-e5 und öffnet die lange Diagonale für sein ♗ . Der ♜b8 könnte über a6 nach c7 entwickelt werden. In einer Partie geschah 11.Nb5 Nb6 12.e5 dxe5 13.d6 e4 14.Ne5 Bxe2 15.Qxe2 Nc6 16.Be3 Nxe5 17.fxe5 Bxe5 18.Bxc5 f5 19.Rfd1 Qf6 20.Rac1 Bxb2 21.Rc2 Be5 22.Bxb6 axb6 23.Qe3 Kh8 24.Rc7 Qh4 25.g3 Qh5 26.Rd2 f4 27.Qxe4 fxg3 28.hxg3 Bxg3 29.Qe7 Bf2+ 30.Rxf2 Qd1+ 31.Kg2 Rxf2+ 32.Kxf2 Rxa2+ 33.Kg3 Qd3+ 0-1 (33) Valuet,B (2307)-Mekhitarian,K (2528) Cappelle-la-Grande 2011

- ⁸² Vigorito, D: 'This is the approach recommended by Semkov in his book on the Four Pawns Attack. White refrains from Re1 and plays for a kingside pawn storm. The most common line is' **11.Re1** Vigorito, D: 'One recent game that had caught my attention went' 11...Re8
 [11...a6 12.a4 Ne8 ist eine andere Idee.]
 [11...Nh5 12.h3

(Diagram)

f5! 13.e5 (13.exf5 Bxf5 14.g4 Bxg4 15.hxg4 Nxf4 16.Bf1 Ne5 17.Rxe5 dxe5 18.d6 e4 19.Nxe4 Qd7 20.Nfg5 Rae8= The position is objectively equal, but very difficult to play for both sides.; 13.hxg4? fxg4 14.Ng5 Bd4+ 15.Kh1 Rxf4! 16.Bxf4 Nxf4 17.Bxg4 Qxg5 18.Bh3 Ne5-+ and Black has a decisive attack.) 13...dxe5 14.fxe5 Bxf3 15.Bxf3 Bxe5 16.Bxh5 gxh5 17.Qxh5 Qe8=]
 [11...Ne8!? is an alternative to explore.]
 12.h3 Bxf3 13.Bxf3 Trajko Nedev: '=' Trajko Nedev: '- 11. h3 Bxf3 12. Bxf3 Re8 13. Re1' Vigorito,D: 'transposes.' 13...Qa5 Vigorito,D: 'This is the main line. Black looks to play ...b5 without bothering with ...a6.' RR: 'L'alternative'
 [Pyrrich,George: 'Angesichts einer Vielzahl von Quellen in jüngster Zeit wird die Dame gespielt, eine ältere Idee ist' 13...a6 Ist eine ältere Idee die fast vergessen zu sein scheint.Nach heutigen Quellen wird die Dame häufiger gespielt. Pyrrich, George: 'die scheint vergessen worden zu sein, wenn nach '
A) RR: 'RR' 14.g4 h6 15.h4 b5 (15...h5 16.g5 Nh7 17.Be3 b5 18.Qd2 Nb6 19.b3 b4 20.Ne2 Bxa1 21.Rxa1 a5 22.Rd1 a4 23.e5 axb3 24.axb3 Ra3 25.Qd3 dxe5 26.Bxc5 Nd7 27.Be3 exf4 28.Bxf4 Ne5 Martorell Aguado, J (2197)-Marholev,D (2434)/Figueres 2006/CBM 113 ext/0-1 (39)) 16.g5 Nh7 17.e5 dxe5 18.d6 was Thorfinnsson,B (2426)-Bacrot,E (2722) chess.com 2018 here exf4! offering the exchange to blow up White's position, looks good;
B) 14.Be3 b5 15.Bf2 b4N (RR 15...Kh8 16.Qc2 Rc8 17.Re2 Ng8 18.Kh1 Nh6 19.Rae1 c4 20.Qd2 Nc5 21.Bxc5 Rxc5 22.a3 a5 23.a4 b4 24.Nb5 Qb6 25.g4 f6 26.h4 Nf7 27.Rh2 g5 28.e5 gxf4 29.exf6 Rxe1+ 30.Qxe1 Gouret,T (2303)-Magnier,H (2255)/France 2000/EXT 2001/1-0 (38)) 16.Na4 Nb6?! Les Noirs perdent le contrôle de la case "e5" (16...c4; 16...Rc8) 17.Nxb6! Qxb6 18.e5↑ dxe5 (18...Nd7 19.e6 Nf8) 19.fxe5 Nd7 20.e6 Ne5 21.d6! Nxf3+ 22.Qxf3 fxe6 23.Rxe6 Bd4 24.Bxd4 cxd4 25.Rf1 Rf8 26.Rf6



d3+ 27.Kh1 Rxf6 28.Qxf6 1-0 (28) Koziak, V (2503)-Marholev, D (2326)
Sautron 2012 EXT 2014 [RR];

C) 14.a4

C1) 14...Rc8 15.Be3 (15.a5 c4 16.Ra4! (R. Rittler - S. Videki, Austria 1998) Rc5 17.Be3 Rxa5 18.Rxc4 b5 19.Rd4± White has a slight center control advantage.) 15...Qa5 Schwarz hat den Plan c4 und Sc5 das scheint gut zu sein, falls Weiß versucht am Königsflügel anzugreifen mit 16.g4!? so folgt Stark. Nb6!;

C2) oder 14...Qc7;

C3) 14...c4 15.Be3 Qa5 16.Qe2! (16.Kh1 Nc5 17.Bxc5 Qxc5 18.e5 dxe5 19.fxe5 Nd7±) 16...Rac8 17.Qf2 Nc5 18.Bxc5 Qxc5 19.Qxc5 Rxc5 20.e5 dxe5 21.fxe5 Nd7 22.Ne4 and here the best I could come up with was Bxe5 (22...Rxd5 Lautier, J (2620)-Sutovsky, E (2565) Tilburg 1996

23.Nd6!?) 23.Nxc5 Nxc5 but White still looks a little better after 24.Re2;
C4) 14...Qa5 15.Be3 Nb6 16.Bf2 Nfd7 17.Re2 (17.Qc2 c4 18.Kh1 Nc5
 19.Bxc5 Qxc5= The position is objectively equal, but precise play is required
 from both sides. S. Ernst - F. Nijboer, Leeuwarden 2001) 17...Nc4 18.Qc2
 Nxb2 Dieser Bauer ist nicht empfehlenswert zu nehmen. Schwarz gerät nun in
 Schwierigkeiten. (18...b5!?!=) 19.e5!± dxe5 20.Ra2 exf4 21.Ne4 b5
 22.Rxb2 Bxb2 23.Qxb2 bxa4 24.Qa1 Rab8 25.Kh2 Qb5 26.Be1 Qxe2
 27.Bxe2 Rxe4 28.Bf3 Re7 29.Bc3 Re3 30.Bg4 f5 31.Bf3 Nb6 32.Be5
 Rd8 33.Bxf4 1-0 (33) Zylla,J (2031)-Preusse,G (2180) BdF 2015]

[RR: 'RR' 13...Rc8

A) 14.g4 h6 15.h4 (15.Be3 (Naum 2.2 - Deep Fritz 7, Internet (blitz) 2007)
 b5! 16.a3 b4 17.axb4 cxb4 18.Nb5 Nxe4± Black has the initiative.) 15...Nh7
 16.g5 a6 17.a4 c4= This position is very complicated, which favors better
 players.;

B) 14.Be3 b5! 15.Nxb5 Nxe4 16.Bxe4 Rxe4 17.Nxd6 Rxe3 18.Rxe3 Bd4
 19.Qf3 Rb8= This position is very complicated, which favors better players. J.
 Nogueiras Santiago - G. Kasparov, Barcelona 1989 20.Kh2 Nf6 21.Nc4 Bxe3
 22.Qxe3 Qxd5 23.Qe5 Re8 24.Qxd5 Nxd5 25.f5 Kg7 26.Rd1 Nf6 27.fxg6
 hxg6 28.Rd2 Nogueiras Santiago,J (2575)-Kasparov,G (2775)/Barcelona 1989/
 CBM 012/½-½]

14.Be3

[14.a4 c4]

[14.g4 h6 15.h4 c4 16.g5 hxg5 17.hxg5 Nh7 18.Be3 Nc5 Vaisser, A (2580)-
 David,A (2455)/FRA-chTB 9697 1997 (3)/0-1]

[Deutlich seltener wird 14.Qb3 gespielt wo Schwarz relativ leicht ausgleichen
 kann. a6 (14...Rab8 15.Qb5 Qc7 16.a4 a6 17.Qc4 Qa5 18.Bd2 Qb4 19.Qa2
 c4 20.Rad1 Qc5+ 21.Be3 Qb4 22.Bd2 Qc5+ 23.Be3 ½-½ (23) Reichert,T
 (2031)-Schreiner,R (2203) BdF-Schachserver 2011; 14...Nb6 15.Bd2 Nfd7 16.a4
 a6 17.Red1 Qb4 18.Qc2 Nc4 19.Na2 Qxb2 20.Qxc4 Qd4+ 21.Qxd4 Bxd4+
 22.Kf1 Bxa1 23.Rxa1 b5 24.Ba5 Ra7 25.Nc1 Rb7 26.Nb3 f5 27.Nd2 h6
 28.Bc3 Nb6 29.axb5 axb5 30.e5 b4 31.Bb2 c4 32.Bd4 c3 33.Nb3 Nc4
 34.exd6 Nxd6 35.Be5 Ne4 36.Ke2 Rb5 37.Bxe4 fxe4 38.d6 g5 39.Rd1 gxf4
 40.Bxf4 Rd8 41.Rd4 Kf7 42.Bxh6 Ke6 43.Bf4 1-0 (43) Stock,G (2036)-Jones,B
 (2132) ICCF 2008) 15.Be3 b5 16.a3 Qc7 17.Qc2 Rac8 18.Rad1 b4 19.Na4
 Qa5 20.Bd2 Qb5 21.Rc1 a5 22.Qc4 Qxc4 23.Rxc4 Rb8 24.axb4 axb4 25.g4
 Ra8 26.b3 h6 27.Kg2 Kh7 28.Re2 Rac8 29.Kg3 Ra8 30.Kf2 Rxa4 31.bxa4
 Nb6 32.Rc1 Nxa4 33.e5 dxe5 34.Rxe5 Rd8 35.Re7 Kg8 36.Ra7 ½-½ (36)
 Rach,J (2170)-Thompson,B (2348) ICCF 2007]

14...b5

[14...c4 Vigorito,D: '!?' Vigorito,D: 'is 14...c4 below.'

A) 15.Qe2 Rac8 16.Rad1 (16.Qf2 is just like the line above, but without the
 respective moves of the a-pawns. Nc5 17.Bxc5 Qxc5 18.Qxc5 Rxc5 19.e5
 dxe5 20.fxe5 Nd7 21.Ne4 Bxe5 22.Nxc5 Nxc5 23.Re2 looks slightly

improved for Black, as a potential ...b5 will not open the a-file. Also, it's one more pawn not on a light square (a7) for White's bishop to hunt.) 16...Nb6 17.Qf2 Nfd7 18.Bg4 Rcd8 19.Bd4 Bxd4 20.Rxd4 Qc5 21.Red1 Kg7 22.Rc1 Nf6 23.Bf3 Rc8 24.Rc2 a6 25.Nd1 Qa5 26.a3 Re7 27.Ne3 c3 28.bxc3 Qxa3 29.Qd2 Qc5 30.Kh2 Rce8 31.Qd3 Nbd7 32.g4 Nxe4 33.Ng2 Nef6 34.g5 Ng8 35.h4 Qc8 36.Rb4 a5 37.Qd4+ Kf8 38.Rb5 Nc5 39.h5 gxh5 40.Ra2 a4 41.Rb6 Qc7 42.Rb4 Qd7 43.Bxh5 b5 44.Bf3 Rc8 45.Qh8 Na6 46.Re4 Rxe4 47.Bxe4 f5 48.gxf6 Rxc3 49.f5 Qf7 50.Nf4 Qxf6 51.Ne6+ Ke7 52.Qxh7+ Qf7 53.Qh8 Qf6 54.Qh7+ Qf7 55.Qh8 Qf6 56.Qh7+ Qf7 57.Qh8 Qf6 ½-½ (57) Shchebenyuk,N (2258)-Avdeev,A (2218) ICCF 2006;

B) 15.Bd4 Nc5±;

C) 15.Kh1 Nc5 Vigorito,D: '±' 16.Bxc5 Qxc5 17.e5 dxe5 18.fxe5 Nd7 19.e6 fxe6 20.Rxe6 Ne5 21.Qe2 Kh8 22.Rf1 Rxe6 23.dxe6 Nxf3 24.Rxf3 Re8 25.Re3 b5 ½-½ (25) Aberbach Peltzman,A (2118)-Hillebrand,C (1898) Lechenicher SchachServer 2015]

15.a3

[15.Bf2 b4 16.Na4 c4±]

15...Nb6 Pyrich,George: '?!' Pyrich,George: 'Läßt Weiß nächsten Zug zu.'

[15...Rac8?! Wahrscheinlich sind beide Alternativen Züge besser - hier kann später unter anderem ♔g4- mit Angriff kommen.]

[15...b4 Trajko Nedev: '?!' 16.axb4 Qxb4 17.Qc2 (17.Ra3 Rab8 18.Re2 Nb6 19.Rxa7± Black has insufficient compensation for material deficit. M. Tritt - J.

Holmstroem, corr. 2009) 17...Nb6 18.Bf2 Nfd7 19.Ra6 c4 20.Rea1 Nc5

21.Rxa7 Nd3 22.Rxa8 Rxa8 23.Rxa8+ Nxa8 24.Be2 Nxf4 25.Bf1 Nb6 26.Nd1 Nh5 27.Ne3 c3 28.bxc3 Bxc3 29.Ng4 Nd7 30.Bd3 Nf4 31.Bf1 Nh5 32.Bd3 ½-½ (32) Reichert,T (2435)-Ueksti,E (2338) ICCF 2004]

16.e5 Bellmann,Herbert: 'Die einzige Möglichkeit für Weiß aktiv zu bleiben.Nach' Bellmann,Herbert: 'Pyrich,George: 'Die Alternative'

[16.Bf2?!

A) 16...Nfd7 17.Qc2 Nc4 18.Be2 Ndb6 19.Ra2 (19.a4 b4 20.Nb5 b3 21.Qxb3 Nd2 22.Qc2 Nxe4 23.Nc7 Nxf2 24.Kxf2 Bd4+ 25.Kf1 Nc4

26.Bxc4 Qxc7 27.Rab1 Rab8 28.b3 Re7 29.Re2 Qd8 30.Rbe1 Rxe2

31.Qxe2 Bc3 32.Rc1 Qf6 33.g3 Kf8 34.Qd3 Ba5 35.Rc2 h5 36.h4 Re8

37.Re2 Rxe2 38.Qxe2 Qf5 39.Kg2 Bb4 40.Qd3 Qf6 41.Qe2 a5 42.Qd3

Qb2+ 43.Qe2 Qxe2+ ½-½ (43) Gessat,M (2494)-Habermehl,T (2522) ICCF

1999) 19...a6 20.Rb1 Nxb2 21.Be1 N6c4 22.Bf3 f5 23.Rbxb2 Bd4+ 24.Kh2

Nxb2 25.Qxb2 fxe4 26.Bg4 e3 27.Be6+ Rxe6 28.dxe6 Bxc3 29.Bxc3 Qa4

30.Bb4 cxb4 31.axb4 Qd1 32.Rxa6 Rxa6 33.Qf6 ½-½ (33) Guzman,C

(2071)-Pecotic,K (2163) FICGS 2007;

B) 16...Nc4 Vigorito,D: '±' Vigorito,D: 'was the well-known game Kozul,Z (2580) -Nunn,J (2600) Wijk aan Zee 1991']

Pyrich,George: 'Die Alternative' Vigorito,D: 'There is no doubt that' 16...Nc4

Bellmann,Herbert: '!?' Bellmann,Herbert: 'Pyrich,George: '!?' '!?' Pyrich,George: 'wurde gespielt in Robert Montgomery - Alain Rogement, SCO v FRA, 2010 "
Vigorito,D: 'is the main line.'

[16...Nfd7! Vigorito, D: 'this move is often recommended, but matters are not so simple.' 17.e6 Bellmann,Herbert: 's.Variante weiter oben.' Nc4

A) 18.Bf2 Nxb2;

B) 18.Bd2 Vigorito,D: '!' Vigorito,D: 'This is looking better for White with modern engines, but I think Black is holding, for whatever that's worth.' Vigorito, D: '!?' Vigorito, D: 'a strange looking move, but this is very dangerous.'

B1) 18...Nxd2 19.Qxd2 Nb6 20.f5 Nc4 21.exf7+ (21.Qf4) 21...Kxf7 22.fxc6+ hxc6 23.Qf4+ Kg8 24.Re6 and White has the initiative;

B2) 18...Ndb6 Vigorito,D: '!

B2a) 19.f5?! Jepson,C (2394)-Ganguly,S (2655) Copenhagen 2010 Nxb2!± (19...Bd4+ 20.Kh1 f6 was Jepson, C (2394) -Ganguly, S (2655)/ Copenhagen 2010. Now 21.fxc6 hxc6 22.b4! looks very dangerous for Black.) 20.exf7+ Kxf7 21.fxc6+ hxc6 22.Qc2 Rxe1+ 23.Rxe1 N2c4 24.Bh5!+- gives White a winning attack, for example gxc5 25.Qf5+ Kg8 26.Re7;

B2b) 19.Ne4 Vigorito,D: '!' Vigorito,D: 'Now we have a forcing line.' 19...Nxd2 20.exf7+ Kxf7 21.Nxd6+ Kf8 22.Nxe8 Rxe8 23.Rxe8+ Kxe8 24.d6 Nxf3+ 25.Qxf3 Trajko Nedev: '±' Trajko Nedev: 'White has the initiative. F. Alava Moreno - A. Roy Laguens, corr. 2011'

B2b1) ,vielleicht war 25...Bd4+ ein besserer Versuch obwohl in Alava Moreno - Roy Laugens, Spanien, 2010 Weiß schnell gewann, nach 26.Kh2

B2b11) 26...Qd2 27.Qe4+ Kf8 28.Qe7+ Kg8 29.Qe6+ (29.Rf1!? Qe3) 29...Kg7! Black is holding. 30.Qe7+ Kh6 31.Rf1 (31.Qh4+ Kg7) 31...Qxb2 32.d7 Nxd7 33.Qxd7 Qe2± with a likely perpetual check in the offing.;

B2b12) 26...Kd7 27.b4 Qa6 (27...cxb4? 28.Rd1!+-) 28.Re1±;

B2b2) 25...Qd2?! Und plötzlich ist alles vorbei Vigorito,D: '?' Vigorito,D: 'Capitulation in a correspondence game.' 26.Qe4+ 1-0 (26) Canibal,J (2380)-Koch,H (2344) ICCF 2013 Fernschach2017 [Pyrich,George] (26.Qe4+ Wenn jetzt Kf7 kommt,wird Schwarz konfrontiert mit 27.Qe7+ Kg8 28.Qe6+ Vigorito,D: '!' Kf8 29.Re1! gefolgt von De8 + und später d7, Schwarz gab deshalb auf. Vigorito,D: 'is lights out.');

C) Vigorito,D: 'Black looks fine after' 18.exd7 Rxe3 19.Rxe3 Nxe3 20.Qe2 (20.Qd3 b4 21.Qb5 Qd8 Vigorito,D: '!' 22.axb4 cxb4 23.Ne4 Rb8 24.Qc6 Bxb2 25.Rb1 Bd4 26.Kh1 Nf5 27.Bg4 Ne3 28.Be6 Kg7 29.Ng5 h6 30.Nxf7 Qh4 31.Qc1 Qf2 32.Qg1 ½-½ (32) Meyer,K (2422)-Amico,R (2393) ICCF 2012) 20...Qd8!]

[Unvorsichtig ist hier das vorschnelle schlagen 16...dxe5?!± wie folgende Partie zeigt. 17.fxe5 Rxe5 18.Bxc5 Nfd7 19.Rxe5 Bxe5 20.Bb4 Qa6 21.Kh1 Nc4

22.d6 Rb8 23.Bd5 Nxd6 24.Qf3 Kg7 25.Ne4 Nf5 26.g4 Nh6 27.Re1 f6 28.g5 Nf5 29.gxf6+ Bxf6 30.Nxf6 Nxf6 31.Bc3 Rf8 32.Re6 Qc8 33.Qf2 Qd7 34.Qc5 Rf7 35.Ra6 Qe8 36.Rxa7 Rxa7 37.Qxa7+ Qe7 38.Qxe7+ Nxe7 39.Be6 g5 40.Bg4 Ned5 41.Be5 Kf7 42.Be2 b4 43.a4 Ke6 44.Bd4 Ne8 45.a5 Nf4 46.a6 Nc7 47.Bc4+ Kd6 48.Kh2 Kc6 49.Kg3 Nfe6 50.Bg1 Nf4 51.Bf1 h6 52.Kg4 Ncd5 53.h4 Ne6 54.hxg5 hxg5 55.Bg2 Nec7 56.a7 Na8 57.b3 Kd6 58.Kxg5 Ke5 59.Kh6 Kd6 60.Kg7 Ke6 61.Kf8 Nac7 62.Bh2 Na8 63.Ke8 1-0 (63) Mahling,T (2231)-Patzner,J (2214) BdF 1999]

Vigorito,D: 'generally White has contested' 17.exf6 Bellmann,Herbert: '!?'

[Nichts erreicht Weiß mit 17.b4 Vigorito,D: '!?' Vigorito,D: 'This tricky move is in my book but not Petrov's much more recent Benoni book.' Nxe3 (17...cxb4 18.axb4 Qxb4 19.Bd4 /Rb1 does not look like much fun either) 18.bxa5 Nxd1 19.Raxd1 dxe5 20.fxe5 Nd7 21.Nxb5 Nxe5 22.Kf1 (22.d6!?N) 22...Red8 23.d6 Nxf3 24.gxf3 Kf8 25.d7 (25.Rd5!?) 25...Bf6 Vigorito,D: 'Black held in Junge,W (2348)-Wichmann,B (2346) ICCF email 2013 but this all looks pretty miserable.' 26.Nc7 Rab8 27.Re8+ Kg7 28.Rxd8 Bxd8 29.Na6 Rb5 30.a4 Rxa5 31.Nb8 Rxa4 32.Nc6 Bh4 33.d8Q Bxd8 34.Rxd8 Kf6 ½-½ (34) Junge,W (2348)-Wichmann,B (2346) ICCF 2013]

17...Nxe3 18.Rxe3 Rxe3 19.fxg7 Rae8 Vigorito,D: '- this still looks relatively healthy for Black' Vigorito, D: 'is also critical see Banikas, H (2535)-Gallagher, J (2519)/France 2001' 20.f5 Bellmann,Herbert: 'Pyrrich,George: 'mit Remis.'

[20.Qc2 f5 ½-½ (20) Bellmann,H (2397)-Kerker,A (2259) freechess 2016 Kommentierte Partien2024 [Bellmann,Herbert]]

[20.Qd2 f5 21.Rf1 Kxg7 22.g4 b4 23.Nd1 Rb3 24.gxf5 Qa4 25.fxg6 bxa3 26.bxa3 hxg6 27.Nb2 Qb5 28.f5 Rf8 29.Be2 Qe8 30.Nc4 Qe4 31.Qg5 Rxh3 32.f6+ Kh8 33.Qg2 Qd4+ 34.Rf2 Qh4 35.Rf4 Qe1+ 36.Rf1 Qc3 37.Qe4 Rg3+ 38.Kh2 Rh3+ ½-½ (38) Richling,S (2012)-Hohlbein,M (2144) freechess.de 2012]

20...b4 21.axb4 Qxb4 22.Qd2 Qh4 Banikas,H (2535)-Gallagher,J (2519)/FRA-chT France 2001 (1.3)/0-1 Four Pawns [Doe,John] 23.Nb5 Qe7 24.fxg6 hxg6 25.Nxa7 Kxg7 26.Nc6 Qh4 27.Rf1 Re1 28.b4 Rxf1+ 29.Kxf1 cxb4 30.Qxb4 Qxb4 31.Nxb4 Ra8 32.Ke2 Kf6 33.Nd3 Kg5 34.Kf2 Ra7 35.Ke3 Rb7 36.Nf2 f5 37.Nd3 Rb3 38.Kd4 ½-½ (38) Meyer,K (2432)-Tiemann,H (2466) ICCF 2010

11.a4 Vigorito,D: '!?' 11...Re8

[11...Nh5 12.Bd3 (Chezzz 1.0.3 - Philou 3.0.0, Internet 2010) (12.e5 dxe5 13.fxe5 (Naum 3.1 - Loop M1-T, Internet 2008) Bxf3 14.Bxf3 Bxe5 15.Bxh5 Qh4 16.g3 Qxh5 17.Qxh5 gxh5; 12.Be3 Re8 13.Nd2 Bxe2 14.Qxe2 (Hiarcs Paderborn 2007 - Thinker 5.4a Inert, Internet 2008) f5 15.Rae1 Ndf6= This position is very complicated, which favors better players.; 12.h3 Bxf3 13.Bxf3 Ng3 14.Re1 f5̄) 12...Bd4+ 13.Kh1 a6= The chances are roughly equal, though better players should feel more comfortable.]

[11...c4 12.Bxc4 Rc8 13.Bd3 Nc5 14.Bc2 Re8 15.Re1! (15.h3 Bxf3 16.Qxf3 (1/2-1/2 E. Vorobiov - I. Smirin, Trieste 2012) Qe7 17.e5 dxe5 18.fxe5 Qxe5

19.Kh1 Ncd7 20.Bf4 Qd4= The chances are roughly equal, though better players should feel more comfortable.) 15...a6 16.a5 Nfd7 17.Re2± Black has difficulties reaching full equality.]

12.h3 Bxf3 13.Bxf3 a6

[13...Qa5 14.Qe2 a6 15.Bd2 Qc7 16.Be3 Re7 17.Qd2 Qa5 18.Bf2 c4 19.Nb1 Qd8 20.Qc2 Rc8 21.a5 Nc5 22.Nd2 Nd3 23.Nxc4 Nxf2 24.Rxf2 Rec7 25.Ra4 Nd7 26.Qe2 Bd4 27.Ne3 Qf6 28.g3 b5 29.axb6 Nxb6 30.Rxa6 Nc4 31.e5 Nxe5 32.Kh2 Nxf3+ 33.Qxf3 Re8 34.Ra3 Rce7 35.Ng4 Qg7 36.Rc2 h5 ½-½ (36) Von Borowski,E (2249)-Staf,G (2213) ICCF 2008]

[13...c4 14.Be3 Qa5 15.Bd4

A) Vigorito,D: 'in my book I gave' 15...Nc5 Vigorito,D: 'but now I think it looks a bit shaky after' 16.e5 Nfd7 17.e6 fxe6 18.dxe6 Nxe6 19.Bxg7 Kxg7 20.Kh1! (E. Vorobiov - A. Bodnaruk, St Petersburg (rapid) 2012) (20.Qxd6 Rad8 21.Rae1 Qc5+ 22.Qxc5 Nexc5 I. Hausner - E. Vorobiov, Teplice 2012) 20...Rad8 21.Bd5 Nf6 22.f5 Nc7 23.Bxc4 d5 24.Bd3± White has the initiative.;

B) 15...a6!?;

C) 15...Re7 16.Kh1 Rae8 (16...Nc5 17.e5 Ne8 18.Nb5 Nb3 19.Bc3 Qb6 20.Rb1± White has the initiative. J. Knudsen - Hervet Gilles, corr. 2002) 17.Rc1 a6 18.g4 b5 19.axb5 axb5 20.Ra1 Qd8 21.Ra6= The position is objectively equal, although a touch more comfortable for White.]

14.a5

[14.g4 h6

A) 15.h4 h5 (15...c4?! 16.g5 hxg5 17.hxg5 Nh7 18.Be3 Nc5 19.Bxc5 dxc5 (E. Vorobiov - A. Indjic, Cappelle la Grande 2013) 20.Qd2! Bd4+ 21.Kh1 f6 22.gxf6 Nxf6 23.Rg1!± White has the initiative.) 16.g5 Ng4 17.a5 (worse move is 17.Bxg4 hxg4 18.e5 dxe5 19.f5 gxf5 20.Rxf5 e4± Black has the initiative. K. Andreev - A. Rutman, St Petersburg 2008) 17...b5 18.axb6 Nxb6= This position is very complicated, which favors better players.;

B) 15.a5 b5 16.axb6 Nxb6 17.Qc2 a5 18.Rd1± White has a slight spatial advantage. Stockfish 1.5.1 - Hiarcs 12, Internet 2009]

14...c4 15.Be3 Rc8 16.Ra4 Nc5 17.Rxc4 Nxe4 18.Bb6 Qxb6+ 19.axb6 Rxc4 20.Nxe4 Nxe4 21.Re1 Bd4+ 22.Kh2 Bc5 23.Re2 Kf8 24.Bxe4 Rcxe4 25.Rxe4 Rxe4 26.Qg4 Kg7 27.Qd7 Rb4 28.Qxb7 Rxb6 29.Qc8 a5 30.Qc7 h5 31.Qd8 Rxb2 ½-½ (31) Duenas,A (1924)-Dutttagupta,A (1862) FICGS 2016

11.Nd2 Bxe2 12.Qxe2 Re8 13.Qf3 Rc8 14.Nc4 Nb6! has done great for Black.

⁸³ **12.Rxf3?!** Bizarre, je ne vois pas l'utilité de cette ♖ en f3. 12...Re8 13.Qc2 Qa5?!

[♜13...a6]

14.Bd2?! trop passif.

[♜14.Be3]

central. 21.bxc3 Nhf6 22.e5?! Ouvrir la position va précipiter la défaite, les Noirs y étant mieux préparé.

[22.Ra4 Nxd5 23.g3 N5f6 24.Bc1 était le moindre mal, bien que la position soit difficile pour les Blancs.]

22...dxe5 23.g3 Nxd5-+ Le centre blanc s'est totalement écroulé ! 24.fxe5 Nxe5 25.Bg2 Qd7 26.Re4 Nc6?!

[26...Qf5! 27.Rf1 (27.Rae1 Nf6-+) 27...Nf3+! 28.Rxf3 Qxe4 29.Qxe4 Rxe4 30.Rd3 Nf6 31.Bxe4 c4-+]

27.Rc4??

[27.Rxe7 27...Ne3? gagne quand même.

[Mais 27...Re2-+ gagnait sur le champ. 28.Qd1 Nb6 29.axb6 Rxd2 30.Qg1 Ree2]

28.Bxe3 Rxe3 29.Rd1 Qe6 30.Rf4 [30.Rxc5 Rxc5!-+]

30...Re2 31.Qd3 Qa2 La position noire est totalement gagnante. [31...Rd8! 32.Qb1 Rxc2+! 33.Kxc2 Qe2+-+]

32.Rg1 Qd2 [32...Rd2 33.Qc4 Ree2-+]

33.Qc4 Ne5 34.Qxc5 Nd3 35.Qd6 Nxf4 36.Qxf4 Qxf4 37.gxf4 Ra2 38.Kg3 Re3+ 39.Kh4 Rxc3 40.Bxb7 Rxa5 41.Rd1 Rh5+ 42.Kg4 f5# 0-1 (42) Scamaroni, J (1672)-Beraud, R (1735) Vitrolles 2013 EXT 2014 [Gozzoli, Yannick]

⁸⁴ **12...a6** Vigorito, D: 'can be ignored with' Indjic, Aleksandar: '*' 13.g4 Vigorito, D: '!' [13.a4

A) 13...Rb8 Indjic, Aleksandar: 'Ü 112/52' 14.a5

A1) 14...b5 15.axb6 Rxb6 16.Qe2!?N (16.Re1) 16...Qc8 17.g4 h6 18.g5?! (18.h4 Re8 19.g5 hxg5 20.hxg5 Nh7 21.Bg4 Nhf8 22.Kg2 Qb7 23.Rh1±) 18...hxg5 19.fxc5 Ne8 20.Bg4 Qb7 21.Bxd7 Qxd7 22.Kg2 Nc7 23.Eerens, P (2183)-Cox, J (1962) Roosendaal 112/(52) 2011 Cl1-130 [Simic, Radoslav];

A2) 14...Ne8 15.Qd3 Nc7 16.Bd2 b5 17.axb6 (A. Adly - A. Grischuk, Ningbo 2011) Rxb6 18.Ra2 Qe7 19.Rb1 Rfb8= with mutual play.;

B) 13...Qa5 14.Bd2 Rae8N (14...c4; 14...Rfe8) 15.Qe2 Qd8 Kantorik, M (2323)-Damjanovic, B (2582) Skopje 118/(31) 2012 Cl1-130 [Indjic, Aleksandar];

C) 13...c4 14.Be3 Qa5 Vigorito, D: 'seems ok for Black - ...Re8 is not really necessary' 15.Qe2 Rac8 16.Rad1 Rfe8 17.Qf2 (Stockfish 100913 - Protector 1.5.0, Internet 2013) Nc5 18.e5 dxe5 19.fxe5 Rxe5 20.Bxc5 Rxc5 21.d6 Nd7 22.Bd5 Bf6 23.Bxb7 Rf5= This position is very complicated, which favors better players.]

13...b5 14.g5

[14.Ne2 (B. Jobava - V. Kotronias, Rijeka 2010) Suggested improvement for Black: Re8! 15.Ng3 Nb6 16.g5 Nfd7 17.Rb1 c4= The chances are roughly

equal, though better players should feel more comfortable.]

14...Ne8 15.Ne2 Vigorito,D: 'I' Vigorito,D: 'and White went on to win - in 124 moves - in Moranda,W (2601)-Grischuk,A (2777) chess.com INT 2020' 15...f6 16.h4 Qe7 17.Ng3 c4= This position is very complicated, which favors better players. P. Verdier - C. Hansen, corr. 1999

12...Qa5!? This is an unusual move in this position which has scored pretty well for Black, although there have not been any games at Grandmaster level. The alternatives (which can be found in the games collection) look better: 13.Qe2!?

This looks new. White could also consider Qc2 or the immediate g4. 13...Rfe8

14.g4 h6 Normally one would not want to move pawns on the side where one is being attacked, but the knight needs a square, and this move gives it h7. 15.Bd2 a6 16.h4

[White could also consider 16.a4 Qb4 runs into 17.g5 (not 17.Nb5 Rxe4!! with good play) 17...hxg5 18.fxg5 Nh5! (18...Nh7 19.Nb5 Qxb2 20.Nxd6±) 19.Bxh5 gxh5 and Black has counterplay against e4.]

16...b5

[16...h5!? is a typical counterstroke: 17.gxh5 (17.g5 Ng4 18.Bxg4 hxg4 19.Qxg4 Qb4±) 17...Nhx5 18.Bxh5 gxh5 19.Qxh5 Qb4 when Black has play against b2 and e4 and both sides' kings are somewhat exposed.]

17.g5 hxg5 18.hxg5 Nh7 19.Nd1! A typical regrouping. The knight heads for f2, where it safely protects e4 and can leap into the attack via the g4-square.

19...Qa4 20.Bc3 White wants to remove the g7-bishop from Black's defence.

20...Qc4 21.Qg2

[Another possibility was 21.Qxc4!? bxc4 22.Kg2 but White prefers to play for an attack.]

21...Bd4+ 22.Bxd4 Qxd4+ 23.Nf2 White goes for it, rather than trading queens or blocking up the h-file with his king. 23...Qxb2 Not only does this grab a pawn, it disturbs White's coordination a bit because the a1-rook must be guarded.

24.Qh3 Now White plans Kh2 and Rh1. 24...Ne5!?

[An interesting idea. 24...Re7 25.Kg2 Rae8 26.Rh1 Ndf8 and it is not clear how White will break through. (26...f6!? is also possible)]

25.Bg2

[More testing is 25.fxe5 Nxg5 26.Qg2 Rxe5 27.Rae1 with the idea Ng4. Black will have plenty of pawns for the knight, but White can fight for the initiative with his extra piece.]

25...Qd2?

[After 25...Nc4! Black has activated his knight, and White is still a ways off from creating threats on the h-file. If 26.Ng4 Nd2 27.Nh6+ (27.Nf6+ Nxf6 28.gxf6 Qxf6) 27...Kg7 28.Qd7 Rf8 29.Rfd1 Rad8 and I don't see anything for White.]

26.fxe5 Now White can take the piece and maintain the initiative. 26...Nxg5 27.Qg3 Rxe5 28.Rad1! Black's problem is that the g5-knight is loose. 28...Qe2

[28...Qxa2 29.Ng4 does not help.]

29.Ng4 Rxe4

[29...Re7 30.Nh6+ wins the knight on g5.]

[29...Nxe4 is also insufficient after 30.Bxe4 Rxe4 31.Nf6+]

30.Nf6+

[30.Nh6+ Kg7 31.Qxg5 is also winning.]

30...Kg7 31.Nxe4 Nxe4 32.Qf4 f5 33.Rde1 A rook is just too much. 33...Qc4 34.Bxe4 Re8 35.Qxd6 Rxe4 36.Qc7+ Kf6 37.Qd6+ Kg7 38.Rxe4 Qxe4 39.Qf4 Qxd5 40.Re1 Qxa2 41.Qe5+ Kh6 42.Qxc5 f4 43.Qf8+ Kh5 44.Qxf4 1-0 (44)

Jones,G (2576)-Hebden,M (2556) Newport Pagnell ENG 2010 [Vigorito, D]

12...c4

12...Rb8

13.g4 8

[13.Qc2

A) 13...Qa5 14.Be3 (14.Bd2 c4 15.Rae1 Nc5 16.e5 dxe5 17.fxe5 Nfd7

18.e6 fxe6 19.Kh1 Qa6= with mutual play. Fruit 2.3 - Naum 2.2, Internet 2007) 14...b5 15.a3 Nb6 16.Bf2 Nfd7 17.e5! dxe5 18.f5± White has the initiative. M. Bosiocic - Iv. Saric, Opatija 2012;

B) 13...a6

B1) 14.a4 c4 15.Be3 Rc8

B1a) 16.Qf2 b6 (16...Qa5 17.Rae1 Nc5 18.Bxc5 Qxc5 19.Qxc5 Rxc5 20.e5 dxe5 21.fxe5 Nd7 (Nguyen Ngoc Truongson - Li Shilong, China 2012) 22.Ne4 Rc7 23.d6 Rcc8 24.Nf6+ Nxf6 25.exf6 Rxe1 26.Rxe1 Bxf6 27.d7 Rd8 28.Re8+ Kg7 29.Rxd8 Bxd8 30.Bxb7 a5 31.Bd5± Black can maintain equality with accurate play.) 17.Rad1 (17.Rae1 Rb8 18.Kh1 Qc7 19.Qh4 b5 20.axb5 axb5 21.Bd4 (M. Vujadinovic- U. Zeh, corr. 2004) b4 22.Nd1 h6 23.Re2 Nh7 24.Bxg7 Kxg7 25.Rfe1 Nc5 26.Nf2 Nb3± Black has the initiative.) 17...Nc5 18.e5 dxe5 19.fxe5 Rxe5 20.Bd4 Nfd7! 21.Be2 Rf5 22.Qe3 Bxd4 23.Rxd4 Rxf1+ 24.Bxf1= White has sufficient compensation for material deficit. The position is objectively equal, but precise play is required from both sides.;

B1b) 16.Rae1 Nc5 17.Bxc5 Rxc5 18.e5 dxe5 19.fxe5 (I. Shtern - P. Simon, Toronto 1985) Nd7 20.e6 fxe6 21.Rxe6 Ne5= The chances are roughly equal, though better players should feel more comfortable.;

B2) 14.g4

B2a) 14...h6 15.Be3 b5 16.Rae1 Rc8 17.h4

B2a1) 17...h5 18.g5 Ng4 19.Bxg4 hxg4 20.e5! dxe5 21.f5 e4 22.Nxe4 Ne5 23.fxg6 fxg6 24.Nf6+ Bxf6 25.gxf6 (25.Rxf6 (W. Moranda - V. Grinev, Krakow 2012) Qxd5 26.Rd1 Qb7 27.Rdd6 Kh8 28.Bxc5 Qe7 29.b4 Rxc5 30.bxc5 Nf3+ 31.Rxf3 gxf3= Equal chances, quiet position.) 25...Kf7 26.h5 Qxd5 27.Rd1 Qe6 28.Bf4 Qf5 29.hxg6+ Kxg6 (G. Kleiser - G. Staf, corr. 2009) 30.Qg2! b4 31.Rd6 Nf7 32.Rd5 Qe6 33.Rd3 Qe2 34.Qg3± White has more than adequate compensation for material deficit.;

B2a2) 17...Nh7 18.g5 hxg5 19.hxg5 b4 20.Ne2± White is exerting

kingside pressure. K. Tjoelsen - O. Cvitan, Rijeka 2009;

B2a3) 17...c4 18.g5 hxg5 19.hxg5 Nh7 20.Re2± White is exerting kingside pressure. M. Blokh - E. Osbun, corr. 1995;

B2a4) 17...b4 18.Nd1

B2a41) 18...c4 19.g5 hxg5 20.hxg5 Nh7 21.Nf2 Qa5 (21...c3 22.b3 f6 23.gxf6 Ndxg6 24.Kg2± (with the idea Rh1) M. Guidoni - Z. Sanner, corr. 2013) 22.Bg4 Nhf8 (D. Bokar - H. Tiemann, corr. 2009) 23.e5! dxe5 24.f5 e4 25.f6 Bxf6 26.gxf6 Qxd5 27.Bxd7 Qxd7 28.Qe2± White can increase his advantage with accurate play.;

B2a42) 18...h5 19.g5 Ng4 20.Bxg4 hxg4 21.Nf2 g3 22.Nh1 Qa5 23.Nxg3 Qxa2 24.e5!± White has the initiative.;

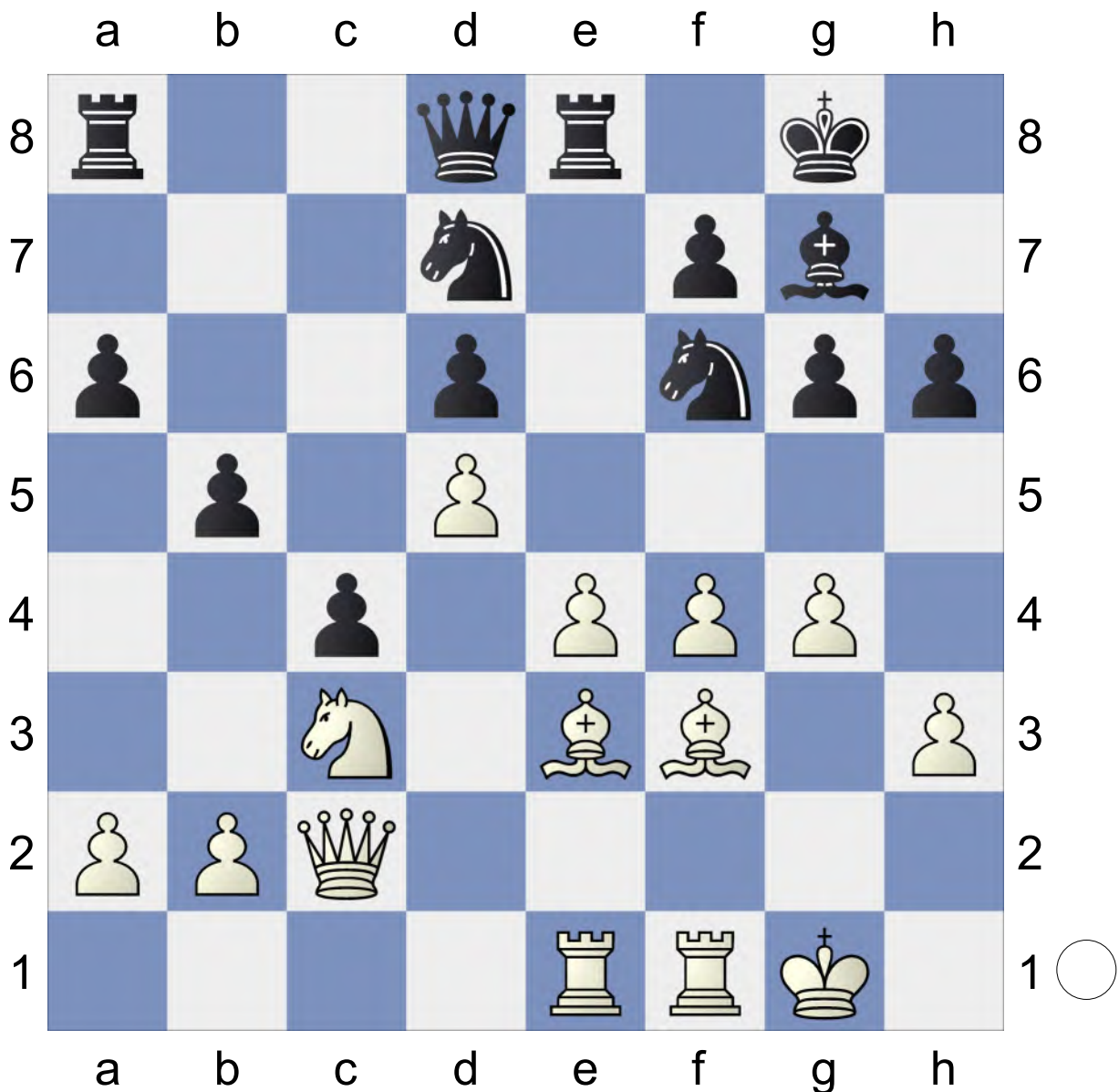
B2b) 14...b5 15.g5 Nh5 16.Ne2 (16.Bxh5 gxh5 17.e5 dxe5 18.f5 e4 19.Nxe4 c4 20.Qg2 Kh8= The chances are roughly equal, though better players should feel more comfortable.) 16...Qe7 17.a4 Nb6 18.axb5 axb5 19.Rxa8 Rxa8 20.Bxh5 gxh5 21.Ng3± White has the initiative. <Engine/Centaur> - <Engine/Centaur>, Internet 2004]

13...h6 1:10 14.h4 1:08

[14.a4 (M. Manolache - A. Groszpeter, Sovata 1997) c4 15.Be3 b6 16.Qc2 Nc5= The position is objectively equal, but very difficult to play for both sides.]
[14.Qc2 c4 15.Be3 b5 16.Rae1 a6 Diagramm

(Diagram)

Um strategische Feinheiten geht es nicht mehr. Weiß plant den Königsangriff und Schwarz sucht Gegenspiel am Damenflügel. Hier wird mehr Theorie geboten als in den anderen beiden Partien, aber am Ende ist es echtes Hau-Drauf-Schach. 17.h4 Rb8 18.g5 Nh7 19.Bg4 hxg5 20.hxg5 Ndf8 Trotz der offene h-Linie steht der schwarze König erst mal sicher. Allerdings hat der Springer auf h7 keine Perspektiven. Weiß kann sich mit seinem Angriff Zeit lassen, da das schwarze Gegenspiel am Damenflügel nur langsam in Fahrt kommt. Weiß sollte jetzt versuchen mit Zügen wie Se2 und Ld4 die schwarzfeldrigen Läufer zu tauschen. 21.Re2 Rb7 22.a3 a5 ein weitere Idee für Weiß in dieser Stellung ist 23. e5 dxe5 24. f5 allerdings kann Schwarz dann mit 24. ...-Sxg5 antworten. Deshalb sollte Weiß den Vorbereitungszug Tef2 einschieben um dann auf Sxg5 den Zug f6 zu haben. 23.a4! Malte findet eine andere gute Fortsetzung. Damit werden die schwarzen Bauern am Damenflügel zersplittert. bxa4 24.Bf3 war der Zug notwendig? (24.Nxa4!?) 24...a3 25.bxa3 Rb3 26.Nd1 Qc8 27.Rg2 Qa6 28.a4 Nd7 29.Bg4 Nb6 30.f5 Weiß startet den Angriff gxf5 31.Bxf5 Nf8 32.Qf2 Qb7 Zeit bis zum 40 Zug Weiß 14:25 Schwarz :07:25 Minuten zuzüglich 30 Sekunden je Zug. 33.g6 auch 33. Ld4 sieht vielversprechend aus. f6 34.Bf4 greift den Bauern auf d6 an. Viel wichtiger dieser Zug räumt das Feld e3 für den Springer. Qe7 35.Ne3 c3 wo ist das Matt? 36.Qh4 Nxa4 39 möglicher Gewinnpläne: 1. Sg4, Sh6, Lxh6 oder direkt 2.37 Le6+ mit Sxe6 38. Dh7+ Kf8 Lh6 37.Nc4



wo will der Springer hin? da ist kein König Rd8 38.Nxa5 Qa7+ 39.Kh1 Qxa5 40.Be6+ Nxe6 41.Qh7+ Kf8 Nach Lh6 sollte die Partie zu ende sein. Lxd6+ sollte auch funktionieren 42.Bxd6+ Großer Sport! Rxd6 43.Rxf6+ Kurz nach Silvester noch ein riesen Feuerwerk. Nehmt dem Kind die Streichhölzer weg. Ke8 44.Qg8+ Bf8 45.g7 EINE TOLLE PARTIE 1-0 (45) Colpe,M (2218)-Bracker,A (2240) Hamburg 2011 CBM 140 Extra [Bach, Matthias]

14...Nh7 20:08

[14...h5!

A) 15.g5 Ng4 16.Bxg4 (16.Kg2 (B. Jobava - A. Tate, Porto Carras 2011) Bxc3 17.bxc3 Qa5 18.Re1 Qxc3 19.Rb1 Nb6= The position is objectively equal, but very difficult to play for both sides.) 16...hxg4 17.Bd2 (17.Qxg4 Trajko Nedev: '?' Bd4+ 18.Kh2 Bxc3 19.bxc3 Rxe4 Ding,L (2714)-Rapport,

R (2693)/Biel Breisacher Memorial 2013 (3)/1/2-1/2 20.Bd2 Qe7≠ Black has the initiative. Ding Liren - R. Rapport, Biel 2013; 17.Re1 Qa5 18.Bd2 Nb6 (D. Blair - A. Barnsley, corr. 1996) 19.Qb3 Re7 20.Rad1 Rd8 21.Kg2 Qa6= This position is very complicated, which favors better players.) 17...b5;

B) 15.gxh5 Nxh5 16.Bxh5 Qxh4 17.Bf3 Qg3+ 18.Kh1 Qh3+ 19.Kg1 Bd4+] 15.g5 4:11 hxg5 1:37 16.hxg5 2:53 Ndf8N 42
 [16...f6 17.gxf6 Bxf6 18.Kg2 g5 19.Bg4 gxf4 20.Bxf4 Be5 21.Be6+ Kh8 22.Qh5 Re7 23.Kh1 Bxf4 24.Rxf4 Rg7 25.Raf1 Ne5 26.Qh3 a6 27.Na4 b5 28.Nb6 Ng6 29.Rf7 Ra7 30.Nd7 Rxf7 31.Rxf7 Qh4 32.Qxh4 Nxh4 33.Ne5 Ra8 34.Rf4 dxe5 35.Rxh4 Kg7 36.Rh5 Nf8 37.Rxe5 Re8 38.Rg5+ Kh6 39.Rg8 Kh7 40.Bf7 Rxe4 41.Rxf8 Kg7 42.Re8 Rh4+ 43.Kg2 Kxf7 44.Rc8 c4 45.Rc6 ½-½ (45) Safin,S (2485)-Timoshenko,G (2550) Mumbai 2009]
 17.Bg2 6:17 f6! 3:34 18.gxf6 2:27 Qxf6 1:03 19.Be3 5:50 Qh4 6:18 20.Nb5 12:25 Rad8↑ 23:13 21.Bf2 5:08 Qxf4 4:12 22.Bxc5 39 Qh4 9:45 23.Bf2 2:40
 [23.Bxd6 a6]
 23...Qh6 2:10 24.Bxa7 11:50 Be5↑ 3:28 25.Rf2 1:00 Nf6 6:49 26.Qf3 5:12 N8h7 40 27.Qh3 55 Qxh3 1:00 28.Bxh3 7 Ng5 3 29.Bg2 3:00 Nfxe4 2:01 30.Rc2 2:24 Nc5 4:53 31.Rf1 2:19
 [31.Nxd6 Bd4+ 32.Kh2 Be5+ 33.Kh1 Bxd6 34.Bxc5]
 31...Rc8 1:01 32.b4 3:44 Nd3 17 33.Rxc8 41 Rxc8 1 34.Be3 2:41 Nh7 2:45 35.a3 6:01 Kg7 54 36.Be4 2:05 Nb2 18 37.Nxd6 7 Bxd6 36 38.Bd4+ 13 Kh6 12 39.Bxb2 33 Ng5 30 40.Bg2 3:46 Kh5 1:37 41.Rf2 43:38 Bg3 1:01 42.Re2 0 Kg4 7 43.Rd2 0 Bf4 2:47 44.Rd3 0 Rc2 28 45.Bc3 0 b5 10:29 46.Be1 0 Nf7 37 47.Bh3+ 0 Kg5 41 48.Rc3 0 Ra2 51 49.Bf1 0 Nd6 10 50.Bg3 0 Ne4 4:19 51.Bxf4+ 0 Kxf4 4 52.Rd3 0 Nd6 34 53.Bg2 5 g5 32 54.Rf3+ 7 Ke5 10 55.Re3+ 8 Kf4 7 56.Rf3+ 1:07 Ke5 11 57.Re3+ 5 Kf4 8 ½-½ (57) Colin,V (2383)-Degraeve,J (2546) Brest 2019 CBM 190 Extra [ChessBase II]

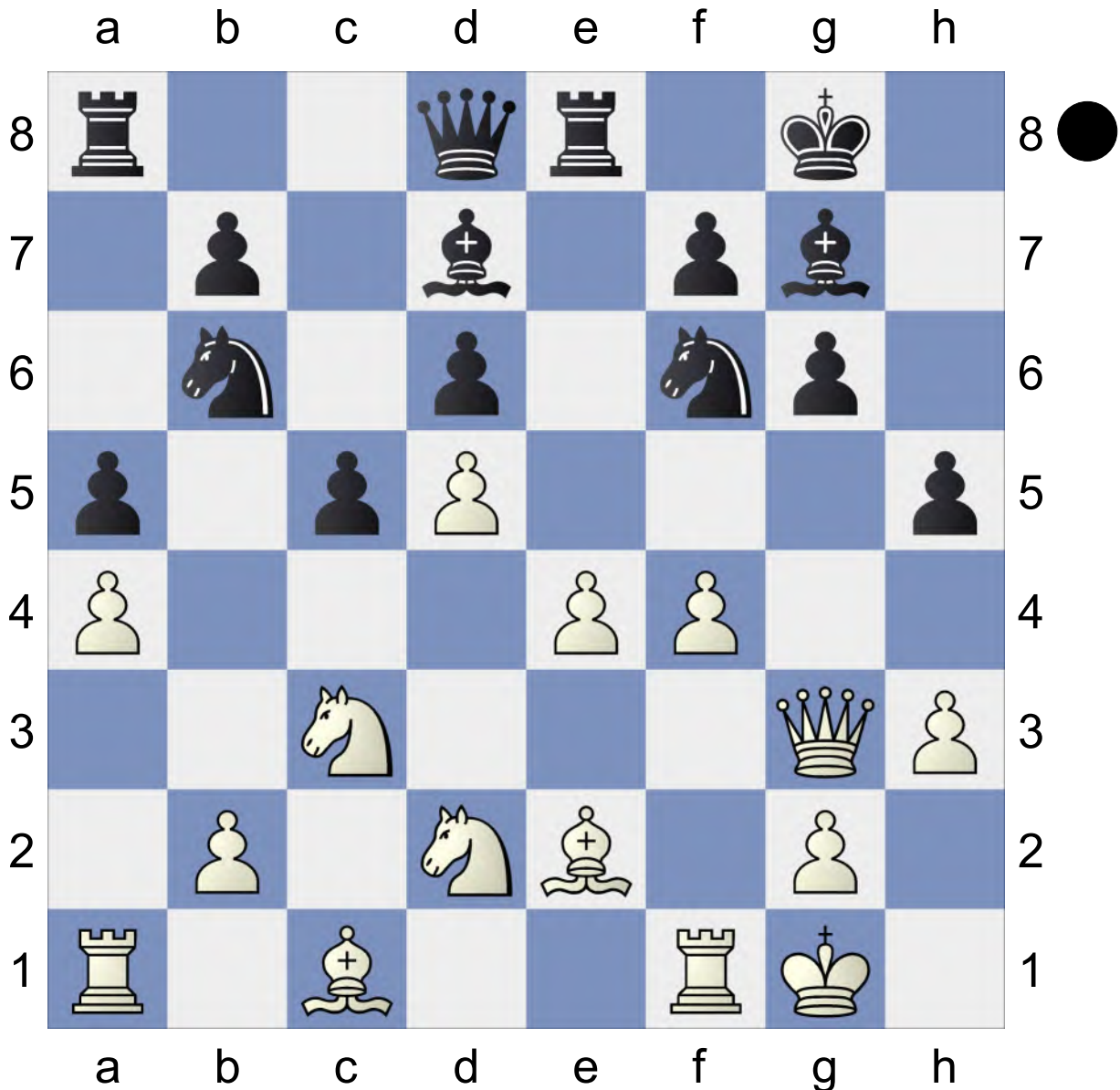
⁸⁵ **10.e5** is obviously premature 10...dxe5 11.fxe5 Ng4 12.e6 Nde5≠

⁸⁶ On the other hand, **11.Nd2** is essentially 'more like' a Modern Benoni and can arise from various move orders. 11...c4 Trajko Nedev: '=' Trajko Nedev: '-' 10. Nd2 Re8 11.O-O c4'
 [for 11...Nb6!? see Tregubov, P - Akopian, V Aix-les-Bains 2011, in the Nimzo & Benoni column 12.a4 a5 13.h3 (13.g4 h6 14.Kh1 Bd7 15.f5 g5 16.Qb3 Rc8= The chances are roughly equal, though better players should feel more comfortable. Naum 2.1 - Deep Shredder 10, Internet 2007)

A) 13...h5

A1) 14.Qe1 Bd7 15.Qd1 (Deep Junior 13.3 - Komodo CCT, Internet (blitz) 2013) (15.Qg3?

(Diagram)



Nfxd5! 16.exd5 Bxc3 17.bxc3 Rxe2 18.f5 (P. Tregubov - V. Akopian, Aix-les-Bains 2011) *Qf6 19.fxg6 Qxg6 20.Qxg6+ fxg6 21.Rf6 Nxd5 22.Rxd6 Bc6* White has insufficient compensation for material deficit.) *15...Ng4!? 16.Nf3 Bxc3 17.bxc3 Nf6 18.e5 Nfxd5 19.Qd2 Ne7!? 20.exd6 Nf5=* The position is objectively equal, but precise play is required from both sides.;

A2) 14.Re1 h4 15.Bf3 Bd7 16.Nf1 Nh7 17.Kh1 f5 18.Qb3± White has a slight spatial advantage.;

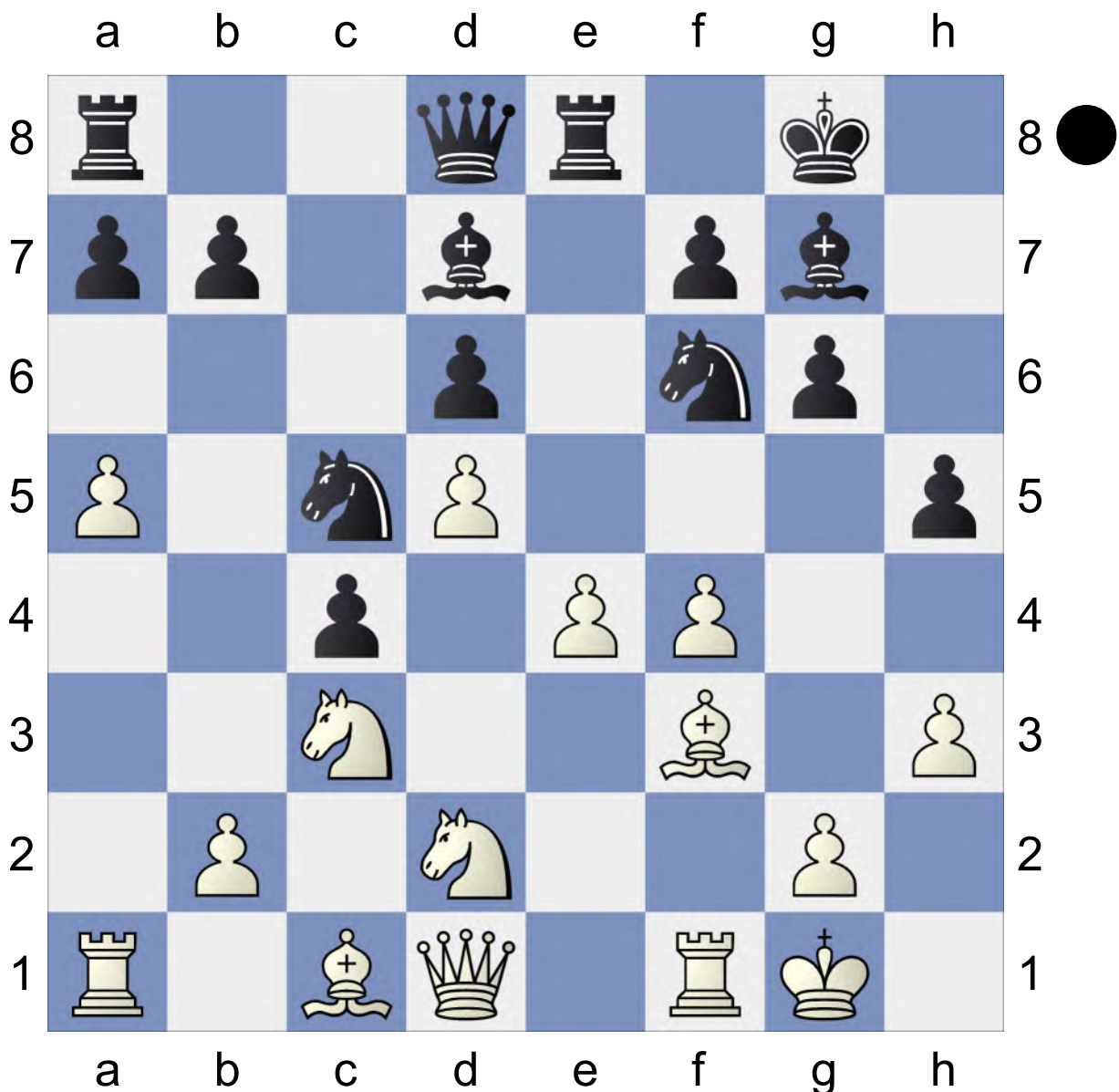
B) 13...Bd7 Trajko Nedev: '= ' 14.Bf3 (14.Re1 Bh6! 15.Rf1 Bg7=) 14...h5 15.Rf2 Nh7 16.Nf1 Rc8 17.Qd3 f5= This position is very complicated, which favors better players. Rybka 4.1 - Equinox 3.00, Internet 2014]

12.Kh1 featured in Hua Lefong - Kavutskiy, K St.Louis 2016, see the KID archives.

[GM Boris Chatalbashev: 'Taking the pawn now gives Black better chances -'

12.Bxc4?! the bishop is needed to guard g4, for example Nc5 13.Qc2? (13.e5 dxe5 14.fxe5 Rxe5 15.Nf3 Re8 16.d6 Qb6 17.Kh1 Be6±; 13.Bb5 Re7 14.Re1? Ng4 15.e5 Nd3!-+) 13...Ng4! 14.Nf3 Qb6 15.Kh1 Bxc3! GM Boris Chatalbashev: '±' 16.bxc3 Nxe4±]
 [12.a4 Nc5 13.Bf3 Bd7! (13...Bh6 14.Qc2 Bxf4 15.Nxc4 Bxc1 16.Raxc1 b6 17.b4 Ba6! 18.b5 Bb7= The chances are roughly equal, though better players should feel more comfortable. J. Mercadal Benejam - A. Ponomarev, corr. 2006; 13...b6 14.e5! This move is frequently played in many similar positions. dxe5 15.fxe5 Rxe5 16.Nxc4 Re8 (A. Chernin - J. Granda Zuniga, Buenos Aires 1992) 17.Nb5 Nfe4 18.Bf4 Ba6 19.Rc1± White has the initiative.)

A) 14.a5 h5 15.h3



Ng4! 16.Nxc4 Bxc3 17.bxc3 Bb5 18.Nxd6 Qxd6 19.hxg4 Nxe4 20.Re1 Nxc3 21.Rxe8+ Rxe8 22.Qd4 Re1+ 23.Kh2 Ne4!? 24.g3 (24.Bxe4 Qe7

25.Qc3 Qxe4 26.gxh5 Re2 27.Qc8+ Kg7 28.Bb2+ f6 29.Bxf6+ Kf7□
 30.hxg6+ Kxf6 31.Qf8+ Kxg6 32.Qg8+ Kf6=) 24...Qc5 25.Qxc5 Nxc5
 26.Bb2 Re3= Equal chances, quiet position. Stockfish 5 - Gull 3, Internet 2014;
B) 14.Kh1 Rc8≠ Hansen,C (2500)-Larsen,B (2520) Naestved 1985]

[12.e5 dxe5 13.Nxc4 Nb6! 14.fxe5 Nfxd5 15.Nd6 Nxc3 16.bxc3 Rf8=]
 12...Nc5

[12...Nb6 13.a4 a5 14.Ra3 (14.Bf3 (A. Savina - N., Zhukova, Gaziantep (rapid) 2012) Nfd7 15.Ndb1 Nc5 16.Be3 Nd3 17.Qc2 Bd7= with mutual play.)

14...Bd7 15.Bf3 h5 16.h3 Ng4!? (P. Tregubov - I. Papaioannou, Kallithea 2009)
 17.Qe1 Bd4 18.Ndb1 f5 19.Bxg4 hxg4 20.Be3 Bxe3 21.Qxe3 gxh3 22.Nd2
 hxg2+ 23.Kxg2= White has sufficient compensation for material deficit.]

[12...b5!? 13.Nxb5 Nxe4 14.Nxe4 Rxe4 15.Nxd6 (15.Bf3?! (E. Meduna - G.
 Danner, Stary Smokovec 1981) Re7 16.Nxd6 Ba6 17.Ne4 c3 18.Nxc3 Bxf1
 19.Qxf1 Rb8≠ Black has the initiative.) 15...Rd4 16.Qc2 Nb6 17.Nxc8 Rxc8
 18.Be3 Rxd5= Black can equalize with relative ease.]

13.e5 This is necessary.

[13.Qc2 b5!]

[13.Bf3 b5! 14.Nxb5 is playing with fire, Black gets enormous activity, threatening
 to win the game in just a few moves - Nfxe4 15.Nxc4 Rb8 16.Nd4 (16.Nba3
 Ba6≠) 16...Ba6+ 17.b3 (17.Be2 Rb4) 17...Bxc4 18.bxc4 Nf2+ 19.Rxf2 Bxd4]

13...dxe5 14.fxe5

[Trajko Nedev: 'worse move is' 14.Nxc4 e4 (14...exf4 15.Bxf4 Nce4 seems ok
 too 16.Bf3 Nxc3 17.bxc3 Ne4 18.Qb3 b6= The position is objectively equal,
 although a touch more comfortable for Black. M. Dlugy - A. Vaisser, Havana 1985)

A) 15.Be3 Nd3 16.Bxd3 exd3 17.Qxd3 Bf5 18.Qd2 Rc8 Kotronias gives
 this!N but it's been played several times in GM practice, going back to 1982
 19.Ne5 Ne4 20.Qd4 f6 21.Nf3 Bf8! this is the real novelty (21...b6) 22.Qxa7
 Nxc3 23.bxc3 Qxd5 24.Bd4 Qc6≡ Kotronias looks nice for Black.;

B) 15.Ne5N was played against Kotronias himself in 2019. 15...Nfd7?!
 (15...Ncd7 16.Nc4 repeats, but Black was probably not looking for that;
 15...Nd3!? 16.Bxd3 exd3 17.Qxd3 Bf5≡ is not out of the question) 16.Be3!
 Nxe5 17.Bxc5 Nd3 18.Bxd3 exd3 19.Qxd3 b6 20.Bd4 Ba6 21.Qxa6 Bxd4
 22.Rad1 was clearly better for White in Bach,M (2307)-Kotronias,V (2486)
 Aarhus 2019]

14...Rxe5 15.Nxc4 Re8

[15...Rf5?!]

A) 16.Bf3?!

A1) 16...Ng4 17.Ne3 (17.Bxg4?! Rxf1+ 18.Qxf1 Bxg4≠ Black has the
 initiative. A. Baburin - S. Williams, Cork 2014) 17...Nxe3 (17...Nxh2!?
 18.Kxh2 Qh4+ 19.Kg1 Be5 20.Ng4 (Z. Peng - A. L'Ami, Istanbul 2003) Rh5
 21.Nxe5 Qh2+ 22.Kf2 Qh4+ 23.g3 Qh2+ 24.Ke3 Rxe5+ 25.Kd4 Qxg3=
 The position is objectively equal, but precise play is required from both
 sides.) 18.Bxe3 b6 19.Qc2 Ba6 20.Rfd1 Be5= The position is objectively

equal, although a touch more comfortable for Black. B. Rytov - M. Tal, Tallinn 1979;

A2) 16...b6 17.d6 Rb8 18.Ne3 Re5 19.Ned5 Nxd5 20.Bxd5 (Stockfish 1.6 - Deep Sjeng 3.0, Internet 2010) (20.Nxd5 Ba6 21.Bf4 Bxf1 22.Bxe5 Bxe5 23.Ne7+ Kg7 24.Nc6 Qf6 25.Qxf1 (A. Shneider - V. Moskalenko, Kharkov 1984) Re8 26.Nxe5 Qxe5 (weakness d6)) 20...Ne6 21.Bd2 Ba6 22.Rf2 Qd7 (weakness d6);

B) 16.Bf4! Nh5 (16...Nfe4 17.Nxe4 Nxe4 18.Qc2 b5 19.Qxe4 bxc4 20.Bxc4 Black has insufficient compensation for material deficit. Hiarcs 12 - Fritz 11, Internet 2008) 17.Be3 Rxf1+ 18.Qxf1 b6 19.Rd1 White has the initiative. G. Almer - H. Hage, corr. 1995]

16.Bg5 h6

[16...Nce4 17.Nxe4 Rxe4 18.Qc2 (Stockfish 1.6.3 - Doch 1.3.4, Internet 2010) (18.Qd3 Re8 19.Bf3 h6 20.Bxf6 Bxf6 21.Be4 Bg7 22.d6 Rb8 23.Bd5 Be6 Zappa Mexico II - Stockfish 2.0.1, Internet 2011) 18...Rd4 19.Qc3 Nxd5 20.Qxd4 Qxg5 21.Qe4 Be6 22.Rad1 Rd8 23.a4 h5= Black has sufficient compensation for material deficit. Best Mutual Play King's Indian Defense, C-Four Pawns Attack Line 151 2015 [Trajko Nedev]]

GM Boris Chatalbashev: 'With' 17.Bh4

[This looks more logical than 17.Bxf6 Bxf6

A) The most natural moves in chess are often the best. Here also - 18.d6!? though it was tough to calculate at this point, that the complications will end eventually in a draw. Bxc3 19.bxc3 Bf5 20.Bf3

A1) 20...Bd3 21.Bd5 Bxf1 22.Qxf1 Qd7 23.Qf6 Re6 24.Qd4 (24.Bxe6 Qxe6 25.Qd4 Ne4 26.d7 Rd8 27.Ne5 f6=) 24...Rae8 25.Bxe6 Nxe6=;

A2) 20...Qh4 21.Qd4 Qxd4 22.cxd4 Ne4 23.d7 Bxd7 24.Ne5 Bc6 25.Nxf7 Kxf7 (25...Rf8 26.Ne5 Nd2=) 26.Bxe4+;

B) 18.Nb5

B1) 18...Rf8!? N Kotronias;

B2) 18...Bg7 19.Ncd6 Rf8 20.Rc1 Be5 (20...a6?! 21.Rxc5 axb5 22.Nxc8 Rxc8 (P. Tregubov - V. Gashimov, Odessa (rapid) 2010) 23.Rxb5 Be5 24.d6 Qxd6 25.Qxd6 Bxd6 26.Rxb7 Black has difficulties reaching full equality.) 21.Nxf7 Rxf7 22.Rxf7 Ne4! (with the idea Qh4) 23.Qf1 Nd2! 24.Qe1 Kxf7 25.Qxd2 Qh4 26.g3 Bxg3 27.Bd3 Bg4= The position is objectively equal, but precise play is required from both sides.;

B3) 18...a6 19.Nbd6 Rf8

B3a) 20.Qc2 b5 21.Nxf7 Rxf7 22.Qxg6+ Rg7 23.Qxf6 Qxf6 24.Rxf6 (<Human Player> - <Human Player>, corr. 2012) bxc4 25.Bxc4 Bb7 26.Rxh6 Rg4 27.b3= The position is objectively equal, but precise play is required from both sides.;

B3b) 20.b4 Na4 21.Rc1 Nc3 22.Qd2 b5 23.Rxc3 (23.Nb6!

is some computer tactics, practically impossible to find over the board.

Qxd6 24.Nxa8 Bf5 25.Rxc3 Bxc3 26.Qxc3 Rxa8=) 23...bxc4 24.Ne4

Bxc3 25.Qxc3 f5 26.Nc5= White has sufficient compensation for material deficit. Key game B. Jobava - T. Radjabov, Novi Sad 2009 Qd6 27.Bxc4 Kh7 28.Re1 a5 29.a3 axb4 30.axb4 Ra7 31.Ne6 Bxe6 32.Rxe6 Qf4 33.h3 (Somehow White is still not lost after 33.Kg1= but again, humans can hardly understand this.) 33...Rfa8 (33...Rc8-+ 34.Qf6 Rg7 35.Re7 Rcg8) 34.Ba6 Rc7 35.Rc6 Rxc6 36.Qxc6? (36.dxc6=) 36...Rxa6? (36...Ra7-+) 37.Qb7+= and after playing an excellent game and missing two times a win, Black even managed to lose... 1-0 (37) Jobava,B (2696)-Radjabov,T (2757) Novi Sad 2009 [GM Boris Chatalbashev];

B3c) 20.Nxc8 Rxc8 21.Bg4 Rb8 22.Rc1 h5 23.Bf3 (Kotonias suggests 23.Bxh5! Bg5! 24.Rc2 b5!? 25.Ne5 Qd6 26.Rxc5 Qxc5 27.Nd7 Qd6 28.Nxf8 Rxf8=) 23...b5 24.b4 Nb7 25.Nd2 Nd6 26.Rc6 Re8 27.Be4 Bg7 28.Bd3 Re5± Strautins,U (2460)-Neto,H (2532) ICCF email 2006]

17...Nce4 GM Boris Chatalbashev: '!'

[I do not like 17...g5? 18.Bg3! (Kotronias only gives 18.Bf2 Nce4 19.Nxe4 Rxe4) 18...Nce4 19.Nxe4 Nxe4 (19...Rxe4 20.Nd6! Re7 21.Bh5!) 20.Bh5! A key idea. Nxg3+ 21.hxg3 Rf8 22.Qd3± where White's grip on the position means more than the bishop pair.]

18.d6!?

[More often White has played 18.Nxe4 Rxe4 19.Bg3 Qxd5 20.Qxd5 Nxd5 21.Bf3 Rd4 22.Rad1 Nb6 23.Ne5?! (better was 23.Rxd4 Bxd4 24.Rd1 Bf6 25.b3 Nxc4 26.bxc4± is drawish Kg7 27.h3 White should be able to hold, but not more. a5 1/2-1/2 (42) Hage,H-De Smet,K (2260)/corr 1995/Corr 2011) 23...Rxd1 24.Rxd1 Be6 25.Bxb7 Re8± with active play for Black in Antic,D (2483)-Kantans, T (2514) Reykjavik 2015]

18...Nxc3 19.bxc3 g5 This pin is annoying, but I think that this can wait.

[19...Rb8!? 20.a4 Be6 (20...Bd7!? keeps e5 covered) 21.Ne5 Intending Ng4. g5 22.Bg3 Ne4 23.Nxf7! Nxg3+ 24.hxg3 Bxf7 25.Rxf7 Rxe2! 26.Rxg7+ Kxg7 27.Qxe2 Qxd6 28.Rd1 Re8!= Meyer,K (2417)-Fischer,W (2365) GER email 2007]

20.Bg3

[I think that 20.Bf2!? is better here. Ne4?! (20...Re4 21.Qd3±) 21.Bd4 Nxc3 22.Bxc3 Bxc3 23.Rb1↑]

20...Ne4 21.Bh5!

[One old game reached this position. 21.Bd3 Nxg3+ 22.hxg3 Be6 23.Qf3 b5 (23...Rc8±) 24.Ne3 Qxd6 25.Bxb5 Rf8 26.Rad1 Qe5 27.Bd3 g4 28.Nxg4 Qh5+ 1/2-1/2 (28) Heckler,M-Brueckner,T (2345) Heimbach 1987]

21...Nxg3+ 22.hxg3 Be6 23.Bxf7+ This forces a draw.

[White could play 23.Ne3!?]

23...Bxf7 24.Rxf7 Kxf7 25.Qd5+ Kg6

[25...Kf8? is too risky. 26.Rf1+ Bf6 27.d7! Re2 28.Nd6 Qe7 and now White has only one move to not be worse, but 29.Nc8!+- just wins!]

26.Qd3+ Kf7 27.Qd5+ Kg6 28.Qd3+ Kf7 ½-½ (28) Hua,L (2284)-Kavutskiy,K

(2344) Saint Louis 2016 [Vigorito,D]

⁸⁷ **11...a6** 11...Qe7 is not played anymore. 11...De7 wird inzwischen seltener gespielt. 12.a4 Qc7

[There have been a few experiments with alternatives: 12...c4 13.Bxc4 Qb6+ 14.Kh1 Qb4 15.Bd3 Nc5± Williams, St - Zylla, J e-mail 2007. Although White went on to win, I quite like Black's activity at this point.]

[or 12...Rb8 13.Re1 Nb6?! (I don't think much of this idea) 14.a5 Na8 15.e5 dxe5 16.fxe5 Ng4 17.Bg5± Nordahl, H - Lie, K Molde 2004, with a white initiative with Black lacking a good square for his queen.]

13.Kh1

[13.Nd2 Rb8 14.Kh1 (Following 14.a5 b5 15.axb6 Nxb6 White has tried all sorts of moves, but the general impression is that Black has a good game whatever e.g. 16.Bf3 c4 17.h3 Nfd7 18.Kh1 Nc5± Gluzman, M - Chapman, M Gold Coast 2001.)

A) A few years ago, Moranda had faced 14...b6 (the second most common choice) e.g. 15.Nc4 (15.Re1 is suggested by Semkov) 15...b5 (sharpening things up) 16.axb5 axb5 17.Nxd6 (17.Na5 b4 18.Nb5 Rxb5 19.Bxb5 Rxe4 Gurvich, V - Dvalishvili, P Moscow blitz 2018, and now 20.f5!∞ to open up lines for his pieces) 17...Qxd6 18.e5 Qb6 19.exf6 Nxf6 20.Bxb5

A1) also plausible is 20...Rd8 for example 21.Bc4 Bf5 22.Bd3 Nxd5!? 23.Bxf5 Nb4 24.Qb1 gxf5 25.Qxf5 Qg6 Pulvett Marin, D - Diamant, A Montevideo 2009, with tricky play, but (25...c4!± looks more normal, preparing ...Nd3);

A2) 20...Bf5 21.Qa4 Red8 22.Bc4 Qd6= Moranda, W - Amin, B Titled Tuesday online blitz 2018.;

B) 14...c4 The most popular here.

B1) In his 2009 book "Kill KID" Semko Semkov recommended 15.e5 but some of his analysis is undermined with 2021 engines at work: dxe5 (the modern engines recommend the initiative-gaining piece 'sac' 15...b5!! (a surprising revelation) 16.exf6 Nxf6 17.axb5 axb5 with excellent compensation for Black) 16.Nxc4 b5 (the tricky 16...Nh5!? is another engine idea, for example 17.d6 Qc6 18.Rd1 Nxf4 19.Bxf4 exf4 20.Nd5∞) 17.axb5 axb5 18.d6 Qc6

B1a) 19.Na5 Qb6 20.Nxb5 (20.b4± Semkov) 20...exf4 21.Nc7± Alexandrova, O - Bergez, L Catalan league 2014;

B1b) 19.Nxe5 Nxe5 20.fxe5 Rxe5 21.Bf4 Bf5 22.Qd1 Rc5 23.Bf3± Gershon, A - Manor, I Israeli league 2002. These examples are now perhaps 'only for the record', because if 15.e5 is well met by 15...b5, then in future 15.a5 will be accepted as the prudent choice.;

B2) It's dubious to capture the c-pawn (White then goes too passive which in general is a bad idea once one has played an early f2-f4 with resulting potential weaknesses in store): 15.Bxc4 b5 (15...Nc5 16.Ra3 Ng4

as in Iljushina, O - Gubernatorova, L Tyumen 2012, also looks promising) 16.axb5 axb5 17.Bd3 b4 18.Nd1 Qxc2 19.Bxc2 Nc5 20.Nf2 b3 21.Bb1 Ba6 22.Rd1 Ra8 favoured Black in Colin, V - Bijaoui, M France 2003.;

B3) 15.a5 Nc5 (If Black opts for the immediate 15...b5!? then in reply to 16.axb6 he can recapture with Nxb6 which defends the c-pawn solidly. After the further moves 17.Bf3 Nfd7 18.Na4 Bb7 19.Nxb6 Nxb6 20.Nb1 Kananub, W - Teerapabpaisit, W Bangkok 2015, the best way to seek play is with Bc8!= with ...f5 to follow.) 16.Bf3 This tame move isn't particularly challenging. (The line-opening 16.e5 is a typical reaction in analogous positions: dxe5 17.fxe5 Qxe5 18.Nxc4 (the struggle for the initiative is paramount) Bf5 19.Qd1 Qe7 20.Bf4 Rbd8 21.d6! Qf8 22.Bg5 Orsag, M - Schmidt, A Germany 2008, and now Re6!= keeps the balance.) 16...Nd3! This invasion is evidently a nuisance, but White was pinning his hopes on counterplay against the c-pawn. 17.Ra4 Nxc1 18.Qxc1 Bd7 19.Ra3 (The assessment after 19.Rxc4 Qxa5 $\bar{f}$ is largely due to Black's bishop pair and mobile majority.) 19...b5?! (It could be better to keep the tension for now with 19...Rbc8! $\bar{f}$ not hurrying to trade off the 'weak' a5-pawn.) 20.axb6 Rxb6 21.Nd1 Bb5 22.Ne3 Rc8 23.Rc3 The rook can now operate elsewhere than on the a-file, as there is no longer the vulnerable a5-pawn to defend. Rbb8 24.b3? (Best play from here could involve 24.Rc2! Qd8 25.Nexc4 a5 26.Re1 a4 when Black has decent pressure for the pawn.)

B3a) With more time Matlakov would have been able to find the tactical blow 24...Nxe4! when 25.Nxe4 Bxc3 26.Qxc3 (26.bxc4 Bd4 is also bad for White) 26...cxb3-+ (surprisingly!) leaves White with no real attack on the diagonal.;

B3b) 24...Nh5?? 25.bxc4! Moranda doesn't mind giving the exchange if he then keeps Black's pieces at bay on the queenside. Nxf4 (Alternatively, 25...Bxc3 26.Qxc3 Ng7 27.Ng4 $\uparrow$ is dangerous for Black.) 26.Bg4 Be5 (Now following 26...Bxc3 27.Qxc3 Black has nothing better than Nxg2 28.Kxg2 Rf8 which is frankly pretty grim, as the knight pair are going to be superior to a rook.) 27.Bxc8 Qxc8 28.Rb3 (White is winning easily after 28.Rxf4! Bxf4 29.cxb5) 28...Bd7 29.Rxb8 Qxb8 30.Nf3 Bg7 So it's Black who is the exchange light and can't really claim any compensation. 31.Qa3 (Better is 31.Nf5! exchanging pieces in a favourable manner.) 31...Qb6 32.Ng5 Be5 33.g3 Bh3 (33...Bd4 is a lesser evil, but still heavily in White's favour following 34.Nd1!) 34.gxf4 Bxf1 35.Nxf1?! (35.fxe5! is stronger according to the engines, but most humans would have rejected this because of Qb1 but then 36.Kg1! enables White to ride out the storm and emerge with an extra piece, plus a king that is remarkably 'safe'.) 35...Bxf4 36.Nh3 Be5 Now careful manoeuvring by White is required in order to make use of his assets. 37.Kg2 a5 38.Nf2 h5 39.Nd3 Bd4 40.Nd2 Qd8 41.Nf3 Bg7 42.h4?! In practical terms, it's not a wise idea to have this pawn fixed on a dark

square. (The simpler 42.c5! creates a passed pawn.) 42...Qd7 43.Qxa5? Allowing unnecessary counterplay. Qg4+ 44.Kf2 Qxe4 45.Qd8+ Bf8 46.Nc1 Qxc4 47.Qg5 Qc7 48.Ne2 Be7 49.Qe3 Bf6 There are clearly technical difficulties with Black having few weaknesses, but White can play on 'indefinitely' seeking a way through. 50.Qe4 Kg7 51.Nf4 Qc5+ 52.Kg3 Qc3 53.Qd3 Qa1 54.Nh3 Qc1 (A case could be made for 54...Kg8!? to avoid checks on the long diagonal.) 55.Nhg5 Qa1 56.Ne4 Bb2 57.Qe3 Be5+ 58.Kg2 Qb2+ 59.Qf2 Qb4 60.Qe2 Bf4 61.Nf2! Qc3 62.Qd3 Qa1 63.Qd4+ Qxd4 64.Nxd4 Even after the exchange of queens, it's far from evident that White will win. He doesn't have many pawns remaining. Kf6 65.Kf3 Bh6 66.Ke4 Ke7 67.Nd3 Bg7 68.Nf3 Bf6 69.Nf4 Bc3 70.Kd3 Bf6 71.Nh3 Bb2 72.Nhg5 The h-pawn is now safe and Moranda prepares an important role for his king. Bc1 73.Ne4 Bf4 74.Kc4 Kd7 75.Kb5 Ke7 76.Kc6 Zugzwang! f6 77.Kc7 Be3 78.Kc6 Bf4 79.Nd4! g5 The last throw of the dice. White was threatening Nb5 and the d6-pawn would drop anyway. 80.Nf5+ Kf7 81.Nexd6+ Kg6 82.Ne7+ Kg7 83.Kd7 g4? A shame, as this loses without a fight. (One has to try 83...gxh4! to eliminate the h-pawn. Then if 84.Ndf5+ Kf7 85.Nxh4 f5! (to activate the king) 86.Nexf5 Kf6 87.d6 Bxd6 88.Kxd6 the tablebase assures me that it is mate in 75. However, in a practical game, the 50-move rule would kick in, so Black should still be able to draw if he was then able to continue finding the correct square for his king!) 84.Ne4 Kf7 (84...g3 85.Nxg3! Bxg3 86.Nf5+-) 85.Nf5 Be5 86.d6 Bf4 87.Neg3 Be5 88.Nxh5 Kg6 89.Nhg3 1-0 (89) Moranda,W (2618)-Matlakov,M (2688) Tornado INT 2021 [Flear,Glenn]]

Predecessor: 13...c4

[13...Rb8N 14.e5 dxe5 15.fxe5 Nxe5 16.Nxe5 Rxe5 17.Bf4 Bf5 18.Bd3 Bxd3 19.Qxd3 Nh5 20.Bxe5 Bxe5 21.Rad1 Rd8 22.Ne4 Bd4 23.b4 b6 24.bxc5 bxc5 25.d6 Qc6 26.Qf3 Qd5 27.g4 f5 28.gxf5 Re8 29.fxg6 hxg6 30.d7 Rd8 31.Qg2 Kg7 32.Ng5 Ng3+ 0-1 (32) Mikaelyan,A (2509)-Perez Ponsa,F (2532) chess.com INT 2023]

14.Be3N

[Predecessor: 14.Nd2 Nc5 15.e5 Bf5 16.Qd1 Nfe4 17.Nxc4 Nxc3 18.bxc3 Ne4 19.Ra3 dxe5 20.fxe5 Bxe5 21.Nxe5 Qxe5 1-0 (37) Laurent Paoli,P (2298)-Favarel,J (2298) Albi 2022]

14...Nc5 15.e5 Bf5 16.Qd1 Ng4 17.Bg1 Nd3 18.Nd4 dxe5 19.Nxf5 gxf5 20.Bxg4 fxg4 21.f5 Kh8 22.Qxg4 Rg8 23.Qh4 Nf4 24.Ne4 Nxd5 25.Rad1 Nf4 26.Rxf4 exf4 27.Ng5 h6 28.Rd6 f6 29.Rxf6 1-0 (29) Mikaelyan,A (2509)-Zhou,J (2550) Los Angeles 2023

88 **12.Nd2** Nb6

89 **12...Nb6** intends ...Bg4. however, the engine shows that GM Boris

Chatalbashev: '!' 13.Qd1! seems to give White a bit of an edge. It's still playable after

[If 13.h3?! Nxe4 seems to work: 14.Bd3?! (14.Bb5 Bxc3 15.bxc3 Bd7)

14...Bf5! 15.Nxe4 (15.Bxe4 Bxc3!?) 15...c4!?

[13.Bd2 (H. Banikas - T. Radjabov, Bursa 2010)

A) 13...Bd7 14.Bf1 Bg4 15.Qd1 Nfd7 16.h3 Bxf3 17.Qxf3 c4 18.a4 Nc5 19.a5 Nb3

A1) 20.axb6! Nxd2 21.Qf2 Bxc3 (21...Nxf1 22.bxa7!±) 22.bxc3 Nxe4 23.Rxa7! Rab8 24.Qd4 f5 25.Bxc4 Qh4=;

A2) 20.Rad1?! Nxa5 21.Nb5 Qd7 22.Na3 Nb3 23.Nxc4 Nxd2 24.Rxd2 Nxc4 25.Bxc4 b5 26.Bd3 a5 27.Rde2 Rad8 28.Qf2 a4 0-1 (45) Banikas, H (2608) -Radjabov,T (2733) Bursa 2010;

B) 13...Nxe4! GM Boris Chatalbashev: '!' 14.Nxe4 (14.Bb5 Bf5 15.Bxe8 Rxe8 16.Re2 Bxc3 17.bxc3 Nxd5= The position is objectively equal, but precise play is required from both sides.) 14...Bf5 15.Bd3 c4 16.Nxd6 Qxd6 17.Bxf5 gxf5 18.Rad1 Qxd5 19.Ne5 Rad8 20.Bc3 Qc5+ 21.Kh1 Qc8 22.Rxd8 Rxd8]

13...Bg4 14.h3 Bxf3 15.Bxf3 Nfd7 16.a4 Nc4 17.a5 Bd4+ 18.Kh1 Qh4 19.Rf1 Ne3 20.Bxe3 Bxe3 21.Qe1 Qxe1 22.Raxe1 Bd2 23.Nb5 Bxe1 24.Rxe1 Nf6 25.Nxd6 Nxd5 26.Nxe8 Rxe8 27.g3± Black can maintain equality with accurate play. Komodo 9.0 - Hannibal 1.5, Internet 2015

13.Bd3 f5 14.Nxe4 fxe4 15.Rxe4 GM Boris Chatalbashev: '±' 15...Qf8 16.Rxe8 Qxe8 17.Bd2 Nb6 Vigorito,D: '!' 18.Re1 Qf8 Vigorito,D: 'and Black held it together in Mercadal Benejam,J (2410)-Ponomarev,A (2471) ICCF email 2007' 19.Ng5N

[Predecessor: 19.a4 Bg4 20.Kf2 Re8 21.Rxe8 Qxe8 22.a5 Nd7 Trajko Nedev: '= ' Trajko Nedev: 'Equal chances, quiet position. J. Mercadal Benejam - A. Ponomarev, corr. 2007' 23.b4 Bxf3 24.Kxf3 Qf7 25.bxc5 Nxc5 26.Qc4 g5 27.Kg4 h5+ ½-½ (27) Mercadal Benejam,J (2410)-Ponomarev,A (2471) ICCF email 2007]

19...Bd4+ 20.Kf1 Bf5 21.Ne6 Bxd3+ 22.Qxd3 Qf5 23.Qxf5 gxf5 24.Nxd4 cxd4 25.Ke2 Re8+ 26.Kd3 Rxe1 27.Bxe1 Nxd5 28.Kxd4 Ne7 29.Kc4 Kf7 30.b4 a6 31.b5 axb5+ 32.Kxb5 Nd5 33.Bd2 Ke6 34.Kc4 Ne7 35.Kb5 Nd5 36.Kc4 Ne7 37.Kb5 Nc8 38.Kc4 Kd7 39.Kb5 Kc7 40.Ba5+ Kd7 41.Bd2 Ke6 42.Kc4 Kd7 ½-½ (42) Jacobson,A (2308)-Bick,G (2391) Los Angeles 2023

⁹⁰ Instead **10.Nd2** Metz Alekhine/Primel,D: '84' 10...Nbd7 reaches the 9...Nbd7 line Trajko Nedev: '= ' Trajko Nedev: '- 9... Nbd7 10. Nd2 Re8'

[while 10...Na6 is good too 11.0-0 Nc7 12.a4

A) 12...b6 13.Re1 h5 Vugar choose very risky plan. I think better was to continue playing on queen side. Bruzon Batista,Lazaro; Ibarra Padron,J: '!' '!'?"ChessBase: 'Vugar choose very risky plan. I think better was to continue playing on queen side. Bruzon Batista,Lazaro; Ibarra Padron,J: '!' " (13...Rb8

Bruzon Batista,Lazaro; Ibarra Padron,J: 'ChessBase'; 13...Ba6 (Bruzon Batista, Lazaro; Ibarra Padron,J) Ü 81/53 Bruzon Batista,Lazaro; Ibarra Padron,J: 'Ü 81/53 ChessBase: '(Bruzon Batista,Lazaro; Ibarra Padron,J) Ü 81/53") 14.h3 a6?! Bruzon Batista,Lazaro; Ibarra Padron,J: 'ChessBase: '?!' (14...Rb8 again was better Bruzon Batista,Lazaro; Ibarra Padron,J: '(ChessBase) again was better'; 14...Ng4? Bruzon Batista,Lazaro; Ibarra Padron,J: 'ChessBase' 15.Nf3!±; 14...Ba6!? Bruzon Batista,Lazaro; Ibarra Padron,J Bruzon Batista,Lazaro; Ibarra Padron,J: 'ChessBase: 'Bruzon Batista,Lazaro; Ibarra Padron,J") 15.Bf3

A1) 15...b5 Bruzon Batista,Lazaro; Ibarra Padron,J Bruzon Batista,Lazaro; Ibarra Padron,J: 'ChessBase: 'Bruzon Batista,Lazaro; Ibarra Padron,J" 16.axb5 axb5 17.Rxa8 Nxa8 18.e5 (18.Nxb5) 18...dxe5 19.fxe5 Nd7 20.e6 fxe6 21.dxe6 Ndb6 22.Qc2 Rxe6 23.Rxe6 Bxe6 24.Qxg6 Bf7 25.Qf5 Qc7±;

A2) 15...Ng4? Diagram

(Diagram)

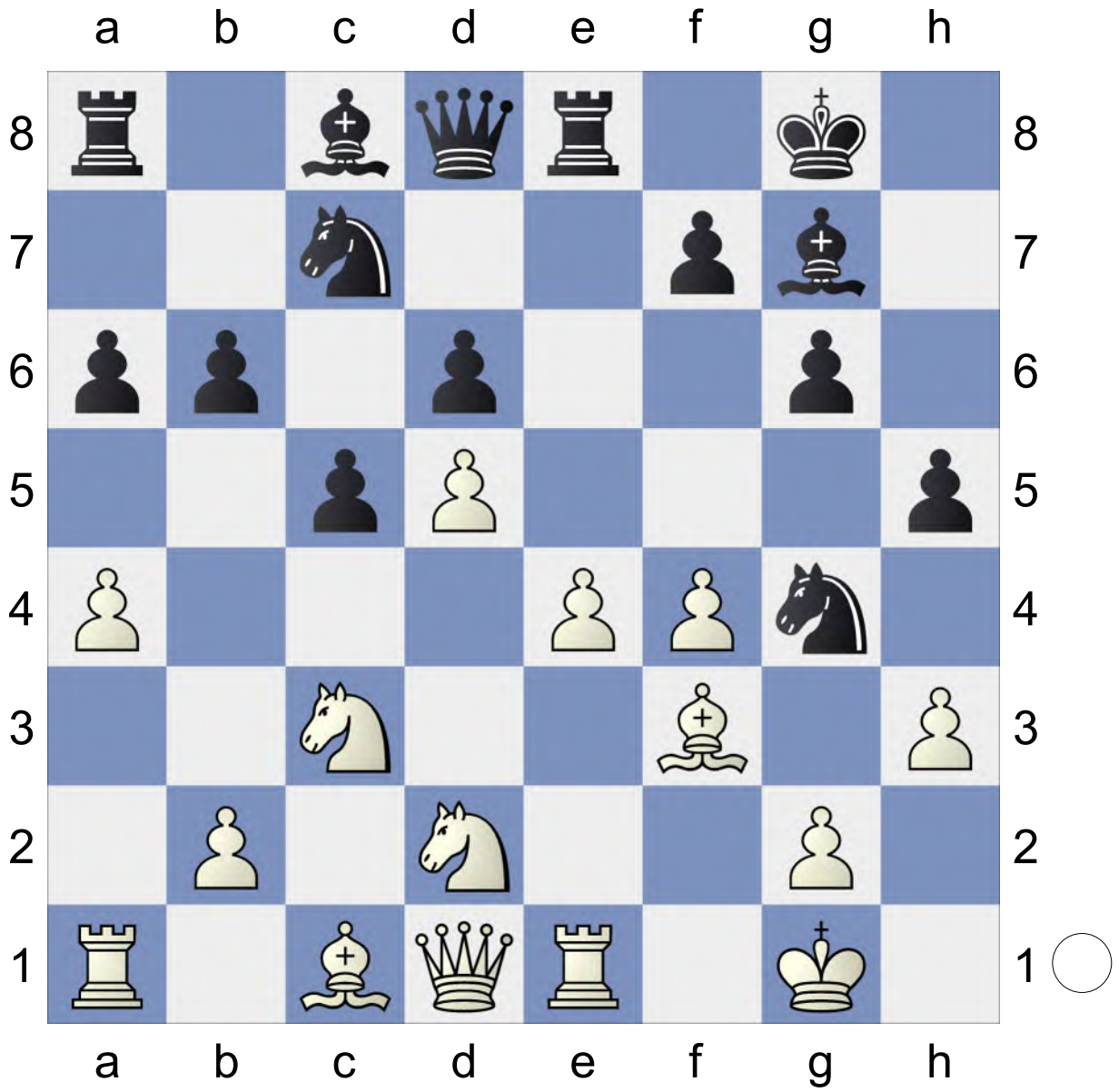
It,s hard to advice anything better, but this lose immediately. Bruzon Batista, Lazaro; Ibarra Padron,J: '?!' '?!'ChessBase: '?' ChessBase: 'Diagram  It,s hard to advice anything better, but this lose immediately. Bruzon Batista, Lazaro; Ibarra Padron,J: '?!' 16.e5! White has too many pieces in defence, and black is attacking with only two. Bruzon Batista,Lazaro; Ibarra Padron,J: 'N!!' 'N!!'ChessBase: '!' ChessBase: 'White has too many pieces in defence, and black is attacking with only two. Bruzon Batista,Lazaro; Ibarra Padron,J: 'N!!' (16.hxg4? Bruzon Batista,Lazaro; Ibarra Padron,J Bruzon Batista, Lazaro; Ibarra Padron,J: 'ChessBase: 'Bruzon Batista,Lazaro; Ibarra Padron,J" Bd4+ 17.Kf1 Qh4 18.Ke2 hxg4; 16.Nb3 Bruzon Batista,Lazaro; Ibarra Padron,J Bruzon Batista,Lazaro; Ibarra Padron,J: 'ChessBase: 'Bruzon Batista,Lazaro; Ibarra Padron,J")

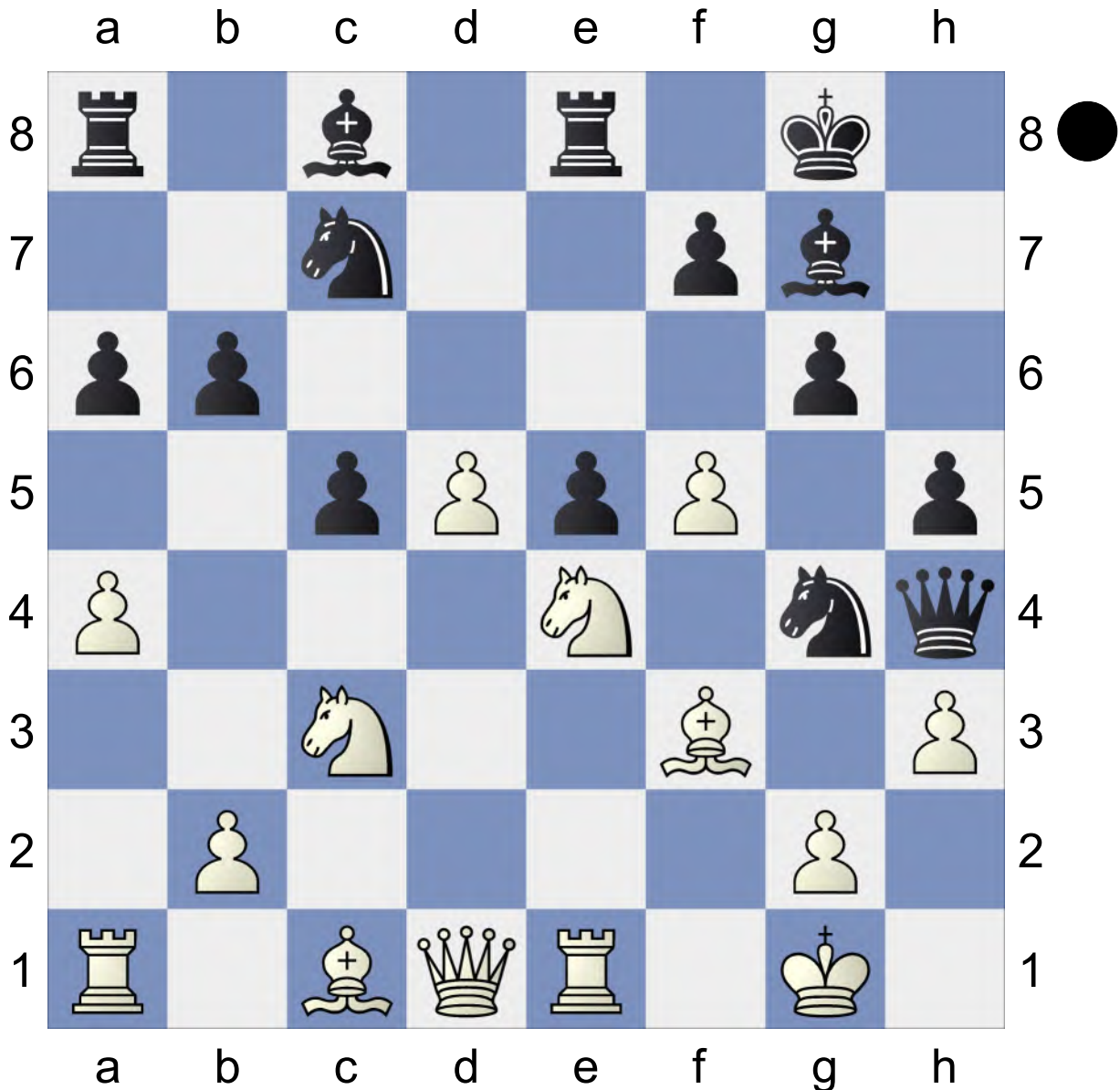
A2a) 16...dxe5 Bruzon Batista,Lazaro; Ibarra Padron,J Bruzon Batista, Lazaro; Ibarra Padron,J: 'ChessBase: 'Bruzon Batista,Lazaro; Ibarra Padron,J" 17.hxg4 hxg4 18.Bxg4 Bxg4 (18...exf4 19.Rxe8+ Qxe8 20.Bf3 Bd4+ 21.Kf1) 19.Qxg4 Nxd5 20.Nf3 Nxc3 21.bxc3 e4 22.Ne5±;

A2b) 16...Qh4 17.Nde4 dxe5 18.f5! Diagram

(Diagram)

Bruzon Batista,Lazaro; Ibarra Padron,J: '+-!' '+-!'ChessBase: '!' ChessBase: 'Diagram  Bruzon Batista,Lazaro; Ibarra Padron,J: '+-!' Bh6 (18...Bxf5 Bruzon Batista,Lazaro; Ibarra Padron,J: 'ChessBase' 19.Bg5; 18...gxf5 Bruzon Batista,Lazaro; Ibarra Padron,J Bruzon Batista,Lazaro; Ibarra Padron,J: 'ChessBase: 'Bruzon Batista,Lazaro; Ibarra Padron,J"





19.Bg5 Nf2 20.Qd2 Nxh3+ 21.gxh3 Qxh3 22.Nf6+ Bxf6 23.Bxf6 Kh7
 24.Bg2 Rg8 25.Rxe5) 19.hxg4 Bxc1 20.g3 Qd8 21.Qxc1 hxg4 22.f6
 Rf8 23.Qh6 Ne8 24.Re2 1-0 (24) Jobava,B (2687)-Rasulov,V (2488)
 Tbilisi 2009 CBM 130 Extra [ChessBase];

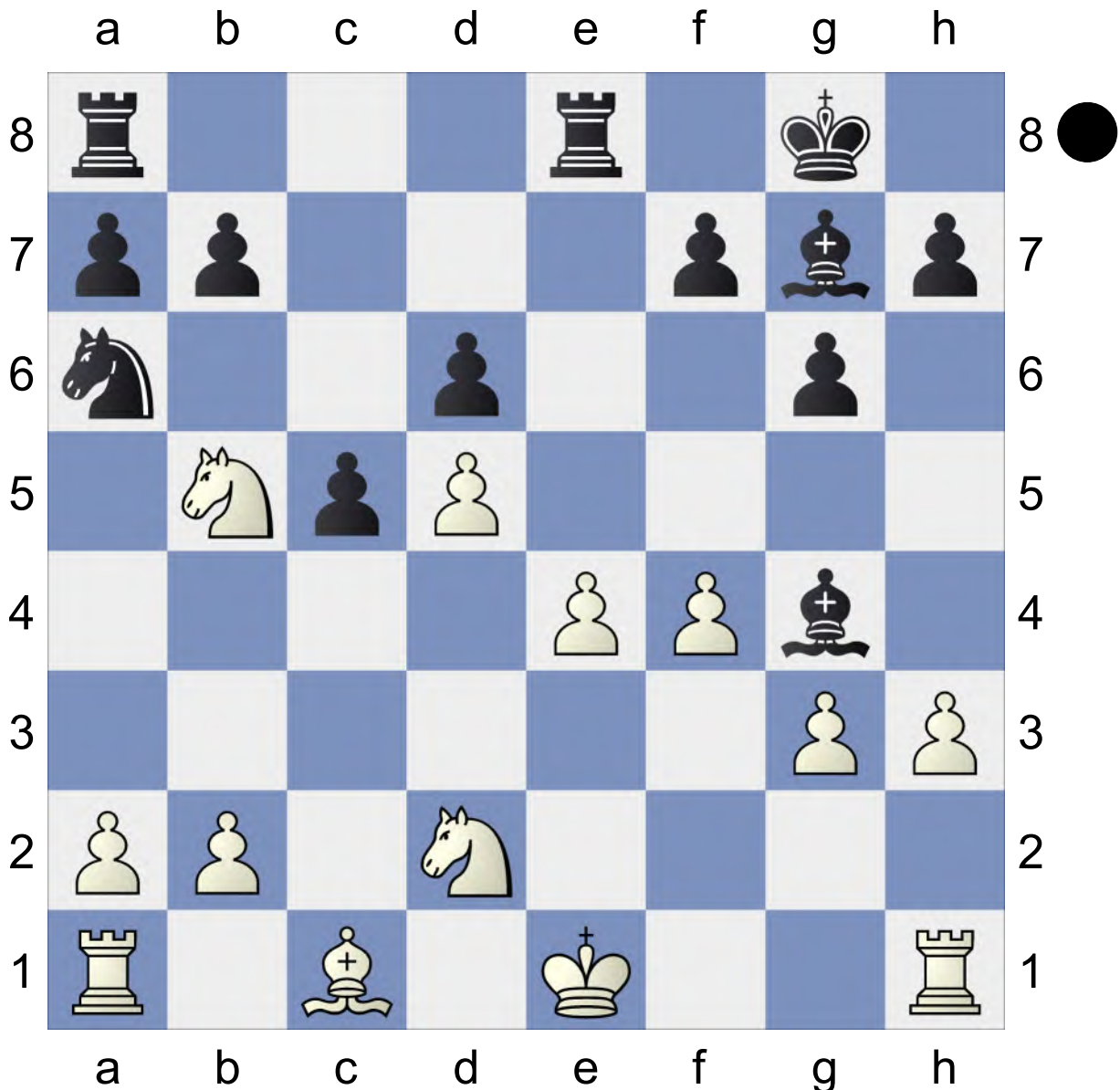
B) 12...a6 13.Bf3 Rb8 14.Re1 b5 15.axb5 axb5 16.Nb3 Bb7 17.Na5 Ba8
 18.Nc6 Bxc6 19.dxc6 b4 20.Nd5 Nb5 1/2-1/2 (20) Arnaudov,P (2448)-Rusev,
 K (2539) Milano 2013]

[10...Ng4 Metz Alekhine/Primel,D: '82' 11.Bxg4 Qh4+ 12.g3 Qxg4 13.Qxg4
 Metz Alekhine/Primel,D: '81' Bxg4 Metz Alekhine/Primel,D: '83'

A) 14.Kf2!? Toujours théorique et le français a beaucoup d'expérience sur cette
 attaque des 04 P f5 58 Une nouveauté trouvée devant l'échiquier 15.h3 fxe4!
 16.hxg4 Bxc3 17.bxc3 50 e3+ 57 18.Kf3 exd2 19.Bxd2 Nd7 20.c4N
 Les Blancs ont un bon avantage d'espace et le K Noir est relativement exposé

(20.Rab1 Rab8 21.Rhe1 Nb6 22.Re6 Nc4 23.Be3 Rf8 24.Ke4 b5 25.f5 gxf5+ 26.gxf5 Nxe3 27.Kxe3 Rxf5 28.Rxd6 Re8+ 29.Re6 Rd8 30.Rxb5 Rfxd5 31.Kf4 Rf8+ 32.Kg4 h5+ 33.Kh3 Rf7 34.Rc6 Rd2 35.Rbxc5 Rxa2 36.Rxh5 a5 37.Rc8+ Kg7 38.Rg5+ Kf6 39.Kg4 a4 40.Rc6+ Ke7 41.Kh5 Raf2 42.Rc7+ Kf8 43.Rxf7+ Kxf7 44.Ra5 Rf3 45.g4 Rxc3 46.Rxa4 Rc6 47.Ra7+ Kg8 48.g5 Rb6 49.g6 Rb1 Araque,R (2210)-Martin del Campo,R (2420) Curitiba 1993 1/2-1/2) 20...Rf8 21.Bc3 Nb6 22.Rae1 Rfe8 23.f5 Rxe1 Concède le contrôle de la colonne "e" mais les Noirs espèrent libérer le K Noir de la protection du P" h7" 24.Rxe1 Kf7 25.Rh1! Kg8 26.fxg6 Rf8+□ 27.Ke2 hxg6 ½-½ (27) Nguyen,C (2372)-Vishnu,P (2470) Metz 2013 EXT 2016 [Metz Alekhine/Primel,D];

B) 14.Nb5 Na6 15.Nxd6 (15.h3?!



Rxe4+! 16.Nxe4 Bf3 17.0-0 Bxe4 18.Nxd6 Bxd5 Black has more than

adequate compensation for material deficit. Key game Wang Rui - Ding Liren, Hangzhou 2012) 15...Nb4!

B1) 16.h3 Nc2+ 17.Kf1 Bd7 18.Rb1 (P. Neuman - T. Vanek, Czechia 2007) (18.Nxe8 Rxe8 19.Rb1 Ne3+ 20.Kf2 Nxd5 21.exd5 Bd4+ 22.Kf3 Re3+ 23.Kf2 Re8+= This position is rather drawish.) 18...Ne3+ 19.Kf2 Bd4 20.Nxe8 Nxd5+ 21.Kf3 Rxe8 22.Nb3 Nf6= Black has sufficient compensation for material deficit.;

B2) 16.Nxe8 Nc2+ 17.Kf1 Bh3+ 18.Ke2 Rxe8 19.Rb1 (K. Grigutsch - W. Loeffler, corr. 1978) Bg4+ 20.Kd3 (20.Kf1 Bh3+= This position is rather drawish.) 20...Nb4+ 21.Kc4 Be2+ 22.Kb3 (22.Kxc5?? Na6+ 23.Kd6 Bf8+-+) 22...Bd3 23.a3 Bc2+ 24.Kc4 Bd3+ 25.Kb3 Bc2+=]

⁹¹ **10...Nfd7** 11.0-0

[11.exd6 Nf6 (11...Nb6 12.Nb5 Na6 13.0-0 Bg4 14.h3 Bf5 15.Ne5 Nd7 16.g4 Nxe5 17.gxf5 Nd7 18.Bg4±) 12.0-0 Qxd6 13.Ne5 Nbd7 14.Nc4 (D. Riegler - S. Krylov, Seville 1990) Qf8 15.f5 Nb6 16.Nxb6 axb6 17.fxc6 hxc6 18.Bb5 Bd7]

11...dxe5 12.Ng5

[12.d6?! Nc6 13.Ng5 (A. Fier - E. Bacrot, Le Port-Marly (rapid) 2012) Rf8 (13...exf4 14.Nxf7 Bd4+ 15.Qxd4 cxd4 16.Nxd8 Rxd8 17.Nb5 g5 18.h4 h6 19.Nc7 Rb8 20.Bc4+ Kh7 21.Ne6 Nde5 22.Nxd8 Nxc4 23.Nxc6 bxc6= 1/2 (54) Fier,A (2603)-Bacrot,E (2704) Le Port Marly 2012) 14.Kh1 h6 15.Nf3 Re8± White has insufficient compensation for material deficit.]

12...exf4

[12...e4 (Stockfish 5.0 - Gull 3.0, Internet (blitz) 2014) 13.f5 gxf5 14.Rxf5 Nf6 15.Rf4 Nbd7 16.d6 Ne5 17.Be3± White has more than adequate compensation for material deficit.]

[12...h6 13.Nxf7 Kxf7 14.fxe5+ Kg8 15.e6± White has more than adequate compensation for material deficit. J. Stoczek - T. Studnicka, Czechia 2010]

13.Bxf4 Ne5 14.Bb5 Rf8 15.Qd2 Bf5 16.Rae1 Nbd7 17.d6= White has sufficient compensation for material deficit. Umko 1.2 - Komodo 2.03, Internet 2011

10...Ng4!? 11.h3 Nh6 12.0-0 Nf5?! 13.Bb5 Bd7 14.Re1 Bxb5 15.Nxb5 a6 16.Nc3?!

[16.Nxd6 Nxd6 17.exd6 Nd7±]

16...Nd7 17.e6 fxe6 18.dxe6 Nf6 19.Nd5 Ne7! 20.Nxf6+ Bxf6 21.Qc2

Δd2-c3 21...b5! 22.g4?! Qc7 23.Be3 Rac8 24.Rac1 Qb7 25.Qf2 Nd5

[25...Qd5 26.Rcd1∞]

26.f5 Nxe3± 0-1 (31) Loegler,H-Burmeister,F Germany 1991/

⁹² Critical, cutting the e-file and the connection between c8 and g4. We've mostly covered the mainline **12.Bg5** in the past. Bellmann,Herbert: '!?' Bellmann, Herbert: 'Auch unklar, obwohl nach' Edouard,R: 'was the old move but after' Pyrich,George: '!?' 12...Qb6

[12...f6 13.exf6 Bxf6 (13...Nxf6 14.0-0 Bg4 15.h3 Bxf3 16.Bxf3 Nbd7 17.d6 Qb6 18.Qb3+ Kh8 19.Bxb7 Qxd6 20.Bxa8 Nh5 21.Nb5 Qb6 22.Qd5 Qxb5 23.Bc6 Qxb2 24.Rae1? Bd4+ 25.Kh2 Rxe1 26.Rxe1 Qb8+ 0-1 (26) Hausner,I (2415)-Stull,N (2250) Luxembourg 1987) 14.Qd2

A) 14...Bxg5 15.Qxg5↑ Qxg5 (15...Ne5 16.Qxd8 Nxf3+ 17.Kf2 Rxd8 18.Bxf3±) 16.Nxg5 Bf5 17.h3

A1) 17...Ne3 18.Kf2! (18.g4 Bd7 19.Kd2 Ng2 20.Rhf1 h6 21.Nge4 Kg7 22.Rf2 Nh4 23.Raf1 Re7 24.d6 1-0 (24) Petursson,M (2530)-Blumberg,L San Bernardino 1989)

A1a) 18...Nc2± Δd4 19.Rac1 Nd4 20.g4 Nxe2 21.Nxe2 Bd7 22.Rxc5 Na6 23.Rcc1 1/2 (23) Ilic,D-Strikovic,A Vrnjacka Banja 1987/ (23.Rcc1 Re5 24.Nf3 Rxd5=);

A1b) 18...h5!? 19.Bb5! Nd7?? (19...Bd7 20.Ne6!/? Nxd5 21.Nxd5 Rxe6 22.Nc7 Rf6+ 23.Kg3 Bxb5 24.Nxa8 Na6±) 20.Ne6! 1-0 (20) Broeker,C-Marthinsen,A corr 1979/;

A2) 17...Nf6 18.0-0

A2a) 18...h6 19.g4 Ne4 20.Ngxe4 Bxe4 21.Bb5 Re5 22.Rfe1+-;

A2b) 18...a6 19.g4 Ne4 20.Ncxe4 Bxe4 21.Rae1! (21.Bc4 b5 22.Rae1 bxc4 23.Rxe4 Rxe4 24.Nxe4 Nd7±) 21...Bxd5? (21...Bc2 22.Ne6±) 22.Bc4+-;

A2c) 18...Nbd7?! 19.g4 Ne4 20.Ngxe4 Bxe4 21.Bb5! 1-0 (21) Hausner, I-Jirovsky,P Prague 1993/ (21.Bb5 Rad8 22.Rae1+-);

B) 14...Bf5 15.0-0 (15.Bf4 c4 16.0-0 Qb6+ 17.Kh1 Nf2+ 18.Rxf2 Qxf2 19.d6 Kh8 20.Ng5 Nd7 21.Nf7+ Kg8 22.Ne5 Qc5 23.Ne4 Bxe4 24.Bxc4+ Kh8 25.Nxd7 Qxc4 26.Nxf6 Bxg2+ 27.Qxg2 Qxf4 28.Nxe8 Rxe8= 1/2 (43) Chandler,M-Hawley corr GB-ch 1988/; 15.h3 Ne5 16.Bxf6 Nxf3+ 17.gxf3 Qxf6 18.0-0-0 Nd7 19.h4 a6 20.h5 b5 21.hxg6 Bxg6 22.Bd3 Ne5 23.Bxg6 Nxg6 24.Rdg1 Qxf3 25.Qh2 Qf7 26.Rxg6+ Qxg6 27.Rg1 Re1+ 28.Rxe1 1-0 (28) Strikovic,A (2560)-Diez Fraile,M Leon 1997)

B1) 15...Bxg5 16.Qxg5 Qxg5 (16...Ne3) 17.Nxg5 Ne3 (17...Nd7±) 18.Bb5! Rd8 (18...Rf8 19.Rf2±) 19.Rfe1!! Nc2 20.Re7!

B1a) 20...Nxa1 21.g4!! (21.Bc4 Rd7 22.d6+ Kh8±)

B1a1) 21...Bxg4 22.Nce4 Rf8 23.d6+- Δc4;

B1a2) 21...Bd7 22.Bc4 b5 23.Nxb5 Bxb5 24.Bxb5 h6 (24...Nc2 25.Ne6!+-) 25.Ne6 Rxd5 26.Bc4 Rd1+ 27.Kf2 Rc1 28.Bd5 Rd1 29.Bxa8 Rd2+ 30.Kg3 Δ Rxb2? 31.Bd5 Rd2 32.Nf4++-;

B1a3) 21...Bc2 22.Bc4! Rd7 (22...b5 23.Nxb5 Rd7 24.d6+ Kh8 25.Re8+ Kg7 26.Ne6+ Kh6 27.Nxc5+-) 23.d6+ Kh8 24.Re8+ Kg7 25.Ne6+

B1a31) 25...Kh6 26.Rf8!! g5 (26...Rxd6 27.g5+ Kh5 28.Be2+ Kh4 29.Rf4+ Kh3 30.Bf1#) 27.h4!! Kg6 (27...gxh4 28.g5+ Kh5 29.Be2+ Δf6#) 28.h5+ Kh6 29.Rf6+ Bg6 30.hxg6 hxg6 31.Rf2 Kh7 32.Ne4+-;

- B1a32)** 25...Kf6 26.Nd5+ Ke5 27.Nec7+ Kd4 (27...Kxd6 28.Re6#) 28.b3! Δ b5# a6 29.Ne6+ Ke5 30.Ng5+! Kd4 31.Nf3#;
- B1a4)** 21...a6 22.gxf5
- B1a41)** 22...axb5 23.Nce4!! (23.f6+-) 23...Nd7 (23...Rf8 24.f6+-) 24.f6+-;
- B1a42)** 22...gxf5! 23.Bd3 Rd7 24.Re8+ Kg7 25.Bxf5±;
- B1b)** 20...Nd7 21.Rf1! Nf6 22.Bc4±;
- B1c)** 20...h6!? 21.Rf1! hxg5 22.g4±;
- B1d)** 20...a6 21.Bc4 b5 (21...Rd6 22.Rf1 Nd7 23.g4±) 22.Rf1 bxc4 (22...Ne3 23.Nce4!!+-) 23.g4!!
- B1d1)** 23...Bxg4 24.Rff7 Bf5 25.Rg7+ Kh8 26.Rxh7+ Kg8 27.Reg7+ Kf8 28.Ne6+ Bxe6 29.dxe6 Nc6 30.Ne4+-;
- B1d2)** 23...h6 24.Nh7 (24.gxf5 hxg5 25.f6+-) 24...Bxg4 25.Rff7 Nd7 26.Ne4+-;
- B1d3)** 23...Nd4 24.gxf5 gxf5! 25.Nxh7±;
- B1d4)** 23...Ne3 24.gxf5!!+- 1-0 (30) Cranbourne,C-Crespo,R corr 1988/;
- B2)** 15...Nd7
- B2a)** 16.Bb5!? a6 (16...Qb6 17.Bxf6 Ngxf6 18.Ng5 Re5 19.Qf4 Rae8 20.g4!±) 17.Bxd7 Qxd7
- B2a1)** 18.h3! Bxg5 19.Nxg5 Ne3 (19...Ne5 20.Nce4±) 20.Rf3 Nc2 (20...Nc4 21.Qf4 Nd6 22.g4±) 21.Raf1 Nd4 22.R3f2 Δ g4→;
- B2a2)** 18.Bxf6?! Nxf6 19.Qg5 Ne4 20.Nxe4
- B2a21)** 20...Bxe4 21.Rad1 Qd6 22.Qh6 Bxf3 (22...Bxd5 23.Ng5 Re7 24.Rf5!!+-) 23.Rxf3=;
- B2a22)** 20...Rxe4? 21.Rad1 Rae8 22.d6!± Arencibia,W-Paneque,P Holguin 1988/;
- B2b)** 16.h3 Bxg5 17.Nxg5!? (17.Qxg5 Ne3 18.Qh6 Nxf1 19.Ng5 Qe7 20.d6 Qe3+ 21.Kxf1 Nf8 22.Rd1 Re5 23.d7 Rd8 24.Bc4+ Be6 25.Nxe6 Rf5+ 26.Nf4+ Kh8 27.Ncd5 Qe4 1-0 (34) Szabo,L (2545)-Timman,J (2510) Amsterdam 1975 28.b3 Rxd7 29.Re1±) 17...Ne3 18.Rxf5□ Nxf5 (18...gxf5?! 19.Ne6 Rxe6 20.dxe6 Qg5 21.Bf3 Ne5 22.Bxb7 Rb8 23.Bd5±) 19.Bb5!± (19.d6 Nb6!) 19...a6 (19...Nd6! 20.Ne6 Qe7 21.Nc7 Rac8 22.Nxe8 Rxe8 23.a4! a6 24.Bxd7 Qxd7 25.Qf2!=) 20.Bxd7 Qxd7 21.Nce4 Rf8! 22.Ne6 Rf7 23.N6xc5 Qc7! 24.d6 (Δ 24.Ne6 Qe5 25.Re1 Rd7!±) 24...Qc6 25.d7 Rd8 26.Qg5
- B2b1)** 26...Re7? 27.Rf1 h6 28.Qf6 Qxf6 29.Nxf6+ Kg7 30.Nxb7±;
- B2b2)** 26...Rff8! 27.Rf1
- B2b21)** 27...h6 28.Qc1! b6 (28...Qd5 29.Rd1) 29.Qc4+ Kh7 30.Qe6 Qc7 31.g4 bxc5 (31...Ng7? 32.Rxf8! Nxe6 33.Nf6+ □e6#) 32.gxf5 Qxd7 33.Qxg6+ Kh8 34.Qxh6+=;
- B2b22)** 27...Qd5? 28.g4 Qd4+ 29.Kh2 Ne3 30.Rxf8+ Rxf8 31.Qe7 Nf1+ 32.Kh1□ Ng3+ 33.Kg2 Nxe4 34.Nxe4! Qd5□

35.Kg3 Qf7 36.Nf6+ Kg7 37.Ne8+ Kg8 38.Qxf7+-;

B2b23) 27...Kh8! 28.Qf4!! Qd5! 29.g4 b6 30.Nb3 Rxd7 31.gxf5 Rxf5 32.Qe3∞;

B2b3) 26...Qb6? 27.Kh1 h6? (27...Rff8 28.g4 h6 29.Qf4!±)
28.Na4!!+- hxg5 29.Nxb6 Rfxd7?? 30.Nxd7 1-0 (30) Vaisser,A-
Thipsay,P Delhi 1987/;

B2c) 16.Bf4 Nge5

B2c1) 17.d6 Nxf3+ (17...c4 18.Nd5 Nd3 19.Bxd3 Bxd3 20.Bg5!±
→) 18.Bxf3 Bd4+ 19.Kh1 Ne5 20.Bd5+ Δb5↑;

B2c2) 17.Ng5?! c4! 18.Ne6 Bxe6 19.dxe6

B2c21) 19...Qb6+ 20.Kh1 Qxe6 21.Nd5!?≡ (21.Nb5 Qc6 22.Nd6
Re6 23.Nxc4 Nxc4 24.Bxc4 Qxc4 25.Qxd7 Re7 26.Qd6 Re6
27.Qd7=);

B2c22) 19...Rxe6 20.Qd5

B2c221) 20...Qb6+ 21.Kh1 Qc6 22.Bxe5 Nxe5 (22...Qxd5
23.Nxd5 Bxe5 24.Bxc4+- Δc7) 23.Rxf6+-;

B2c222) 20...Qe7 21.Ne4 Nb6 22.Nxf6+ Qxf6 23.Qxb7 Re7
24.Qa6 Nd3= 1/2 (38) Arencibia,W-Paneque,P Holguin 1988/
Modern Benoni-9.cd5 Re8 10.e5 Survey 2015 Lexikon15 [Ftacnik,
Konikowski]]

[12...Qa5 13.0-0 Nxe5 14.Bb5 (14.Nxe5 Bxe5 15.d6 Be6 16.Bf3 Nd7
17.Be7 Rxe7 18.dxe7 Re8 19.Bxb7 Qc7 20.Bd5 Bxh2+ 21.Kh1 Rxe7
22.Bxe6 Rxe6 23.Qf3 Nf6 24.Rae1 Be5= 0-1 (55) Vaisser,A (2575)-Georgiev,K
(2500) Aubervilliers 1993) 14...Bd7 15.Nxe5 Bxb5 16.Nxb5 Bxe5 17.a4 a6
18.d6 axb5 19.Qd5 Bd4+ 20.Kh1 Rf8 21.Rxf7 Rxf7 22.Rf1 Bf2 0-1 (22)
Kortschnoj,V (2617)-Moeckel,K Berlin 2001]

13.0-0

[13.Qd2!?

A) 13...Nd7?!

A1) 14.d6 Ndxe5 15.Nd5 Qxb2! 16.Qxb2 Nd3+ (16...Nxf3+? 17.gxf3
Bxb2 18.Rb1+-) 17.Kf1 (17.Kd2 Nxb2∞ Δf2-e4) 17...Nxb2 18.Bb5
(18.Nc7 Bd7 19.Nxa8 Rxa8 Δc4↑) 18...Be6 19.Nc7 Red8 (19...Bc4+
20.Bxc4 Nxc4 21.d7 Red8 22.Nxa8 Rxd7 23.Rc1±) 20.Nxa8 Rxa8
21.Re1 a6 (21...Nf6⌘) 22.Rxe6□ (22.Be2 b5⌘) 22...fxe6 23.Bd7 Kf7
24.Ke2 Bf6 25.Rf1

A1a) 25...Rd8 26.Ne5+!? (26.h3 Rxd7 27.hxg4 Kg7 28.Bc1 h6
- 25.... ♔g7) 26...Kg7 27.h3 Bxg5 28.Rf7+ Kg8 29.hxg4 Nc4!⌘;

A1b) 25...Kg7!? 26.h3 h6! 27.Bc1 Rd8 28.hxg4 Rxd7 Stohl: '- 25....
♔g7' 29.g5 hxg5 30.Nxg5

A1b1) 30...Bxg5! 31.Bxb2+ (31.Bxg5 Nc4+-) 31...Kg8 32.Be5 b5⌘;

A1b2) 30...Na4?⊕ 31.Nxe6+ Kf7 32.Ng5+ Kg7 33.Ne6+ Komarov,D-
Lamoureux,Ch/Cannes/1993/0,5/33/;

A2) 14.e6! fxe6 (14...Nde5∞) 15.dxe6

A2a) 15...Bxc3?! 16.bxc3 Qxe6 17.0-0!! Ndf6 (17...Qxe2 18.Rae1! Qxd2 19.Rxe8+ Kf7 20.Re7+ Kf8 21.Nxd2+-) 18.Rae1! Qc6 19.h3! Ne4□ 20.Qf4! h6 21.hxg4 hxg5 22.Nxg5 Nxg5 23.Qxg5 Kg7 24.Bc4! Rxe1 25.Rxe1 Qf6 26.Re7+-;

A2b) 15...Qxe6 16.Nd5!? Be5 17.Nxe5 Qxe5 18.Bf4 Qe4 19.Nc7±;

B) 13...c4?! 14.0-0-0±;

C) 13...Nxe5 14.0-0-0!?

C1) 14...c4 15.Nxe5 Bxe5 16.Bxc4 Qc5 17.Bb3 Na6 18.Rhf1! Bg4 19.d6! Rf8 20.d7! Bxd1 (20...Bxd7? 21.Qxd7 Bxc3 22.Rd5!+-; 20...Bxc3? 21.bxc3 Bxd7 22.Bf6!+-) 21.Rxd1±;

C2) 14...Na6!? 15.Nxe5

C2a) 15...Bxe5!? 16.Bb5! Rf8 (16...Bxc3? 17.Qxc3 Qxb5 18.Bh6 f6 19.Qxf6 Qc4+ 20.Kb1 Qe4+ 21.Ka1 Qe7 22.Rhe1! Qxf6 23.Rxe8+ Kf7 24.Rf8+ Ke7 25.Re1+ Be6 26.d6±) 17.Be7 Bg4 18.Be2±;

C2b) 15...Rxe5!?

C2b1) 16.Bf4? Re8 17.Rhe1 (△17.h4!?) 17...Bd7 18.d6 (△18.g4) 18...Be6 19.Bxa6 Qxa6 20.Kb1 Bd4 21.Ka1 Rad8 22.Re4 Δd4 Rxd6! 23.Bxd6 Qxd6 0-1 (29) Bloch,M-Lukin,A Russia 1992/;

C2b2) 16.d6!?±;

C2b3) 16.Rhe1! Nb4 (16...Bd7 17.d6∞) 17.Bc4! (17.d6? Rxc5!! 18.Qxc5 Nxa2+!-+; 17.Bf4? Rxd5!) 17...Rxe1 18.Rxe1! (18.Qxe1 Bg4!∞) 18...Bf5 19.d6!?±;

C3) 14...Qa5!? 15.Nxe5!∞ (15.Rhe1?! Nbd7 16.d6 Nb6! 17.Bb5 Bd7 18.Nxe5 Rxe5 19.Rxe5 Bxe5 20.Bxd7 Nxd7);

C4) 14...Bf5!? 15.Nxe5 Bxe5 16.Rhe1! (16.g4?! Bxc3! 17.Qxc3□ Rxe2 18.gxf5 Nd7∞ 19.d6 Qb4 20.Qxb4 cxb4 21.Rhe1 Rae8 22.Be7 Rxe1 23.Rxe1 f6 0-1 (33) Summerscale,A (2500)-Nijboer,F (2525) Germany 1996; 16.Bf3?! Qb4! 17.a3?! Bxc3! 18.Qxc3 Qxc3+ 19.bxc3 Nd7∞ Δe5,f6)

C4a) 16...Na6 17.g4! Bd7 (17...Bxc3 18.Qxc3 Nb4? 19.Bc4! Bxg4 20.Bh6! f6 21.d6+! Δf6+-) 18.d6!± →;

C4b) 16...Qa5 17.g4! Bxc3 18.Qxc3 Qxc3+ 19.bxc3 Bd7□ 20.Bf6!±;

C4c) 16...Qb4! 17.a3! Qb3 18.g4! (18.Bf3 Nd7 19.g4?! Bxc3! 20.Qxc3 Qxc3+ 21.bxc3 Ne5 22.gxf5 Nxf3 23.Rxe8+ Rxe8 24.Bf6 Ne5! 25.Bxe5 Rxe5 26.d6 Re8 27.d7 Rd8 28.f6 h6 29.Kc2 c4! 30.h4 g5 31.h5 g4!=) 18...Bd7 (18...Bxc3 19.Qxc3 Qxc3+ 20.bxc3 Be4? 21.Bb5+-) 19.Bf3

C4c1) 19...f6!? 20.Rxe5!? (20.d6!? Bxc3!) 20...fxe5 21.d6 Bc6 22.d7!?±;

C4c2) 19...Bg7 20.Rxe8+ Bxe8 21.Re1 Nd7 22.Re7! Bf8 (22...Nb6 23.Rxb7±; 22...Ne5 23.Qe3! f6 24.d6! Bf7 25.d7±) 23.Re4!! ×c4 (23.Re3? f6 24.Bf4 Ne5!∞)

C4c21) 23...Bg7 24.Qe3±;

C4c22) 23...f6 24.Bf4 c4 25.Bd1! Qb6 (25...Nc5 26.Re6!!+-
 Δb1) 26.Rxc4±;

C4c23) 23...Qb6 24.d6!! Qxd6 (24...f6 25.Bf4 Ne5 26.Rxe5!?
 fxe5 27.Bd5+!±) 25.Qe3!

C4c231) 25...h6 26.Bf4 Qf6 27.Nd5+-;

C4c232) 25...Nf6 26.Bxf6 Qxf6 27.Nd5 Qc6 28.Rxe8! Rxe8
 29.Qxe8! Qxe8 30.Nf6+ Kg7 31.Nxe8+ Kh6 32.Bxb7+-;

C4c233) 25...f6 26.Nb5□ Qb8 (26...Qd5 27.Nc7 Qxg5
 28.Qxg5 fxc5 29.Nxa8 Bf7 30.Ra4±; 26...Qxh2 27.Bf4; 26...Qb6
 27.Rxe8 Rxe8 28.Qxe8 Qxb5 29.Bd5+ Kh8 30.Qxf8+!+-;
 26...Qc6 27.Re7!! Qxb5 28.Bd5+ Bf7□ 29.Rxf7) 27.Bf4 Ne5□
 28.Rxe5! fxe5 (28...Bxb5 29.Rxc5!+- Δb3) 29.Bd5+!
 (29.Bxe5? Qd8!±) 29...Bf7□ 30.Bxf7+ Kxf7 31.Bxe5+-;

C4c234) 25...Qb8 26.Nd5! 1-0 (42) Bloch,M-Schneider,K corr
 1989/]

13...Nxe5

[13...Nd7 14.d6 Qxb2? (14...c4+ 15.Kh1 Nf2+ 16.Rxf2 Qxf2 17.Ne4 Qb6
 18.Be7 lead to a position with about equal chances.) 15.Na4! The theory gives
 preference to 15. b5 , but this move is strong as well. Qa3 (15...Qb4 is worse -
 after 16.Rb1 Qa5 17.Rb5 black is in trouble.) 16.Bb5 h6 This move looks as
 made out of utmost despair. 17... ge5 was more reasonable. 17.Be7 c4
 (17...Qe3+ 18.Kh1 Nf2+ 19.Rxf2 Qxf2 20.Qb3 with strong attack or; 17...Ne3
 18.Qc1 Qxc1 19.Rfxc1 b6 20.Bc6 Rb8 21.Nc3 with full compensation for
 material loss.) 18.Qc1 Qe3+ 19.Kh1! Nf2+ 20.Rxf2 Qxf2 21.Qxc4
 White threatens to win the game by f7! Nxe5! The only move. 22.Nxe5 Be6!
 Not 22... e5 23. f1 23.Qe4 Bf5 One might consider this move as a draw offer:
 24. d5 e6 and so on. 24.Qe1 1/2 (57) Belozarov,A (2541)-Inarkiev,E (2582)
 Krasnoïarsk 2003/ The warrior, playing white, is on the military path... Qf4±
 Modern Benoni-11.fe5 Ng4 12.Bg5 Qb6 Survey 2015 Lexikon15 [Ftacnik,
 Konikowski]]

[13...Bf5?!

A) 14.d6;

B) 14.e6!? fxe6 15.Bb5 c4+ 16.Kh1 Bd3 17.h3!? (17.Bxe8 Bxf1 18.Qxf1
 Nf2+=) 17...Bxc3 (17...Bxf1 18.Qxf1 Bxc3 19.Bxe8↑) 18.Bxe8 Bxf1 19.Qxf1
 Ftacnik,Konikowski: '↑' Nf2+ 20.Kh2 Na6 21.Bh4!? Rxe8 (21...Ne4
 22.Bf7+!→) 22.Bxf2 Qxb2 23.Rb1 Qxa2 24.Rxb7→ Qa3 (24...exd5 25.Bd4!
 Bxd4 26.Nxd4 Rf8□ 27.Rg7+! Kxg7 28.Ne6+ Kh6 29.Qxf8+ Kh5 30.Qf4!+-
 Δg5 , $\text{g7\#}$) 25.Qxc4 Bf6 26.Rxa7+- 1-0 (34) Littlewood,J-Mordue,A
 Eastbourne 1990/;

C) 14.Na4! Qa5 15.Nh4!

C1) 15...Bxe5? 16.Bxg4 (16.Nxf5) 16...Bxg4 17.Qxg4 Bd4+ 18.Kh1
 Qxa4 19.Nf5! gxf5□ 20.Rxf5 h5 21.Qg3+-;

C2) 15...Nxe5 16.Nxf5 gxf5 17.Rxf5 Nbd7 18.Nc3 c4 19.Qd2 b5 20.Raf1

C2a) $\triangle 20...b4$ 21.Ne4

C2a1) 21...c3 22.bxc3 bxc3 23.Qxc3 Qxa2 $\pm$ (23...Qxc3 24.Nxc3 Ng6 25.Bb5+-);

C2a2) 21...Qxa2 22.Bh6 Qa6 23.Bxg7 Kxg7 24.Bh5 $\rightarrow$;

C2b) 20...Rab8 21.Bh5 b4 22.Nd1 (22.Ne4!?) 22...c3 23.bxc3 bxc3 24.Qxc3 Qxa2?! (24...Qxc3 25.Nxc3 $\pm$)

C2b1) 25.Qh3! Ng6 26.Rxf7 Nde5 27.Rxg7+ Kxg7 28.Bf6+! (28.Ne3 Rb6! ∞) 28...Kg8 29.Bxg6 Nxg6 30.Qd7+-;

C2b2) 25.Qg3 Ng6 26.Rxf7 Qxd5 (26...Ndf8 27.Rxg7+! $\pm$ -) 27.Ne3! Bd4 $\square$ 28.Rxh7!! Ndf8 (28...Rxe3 29.Bxe3 Bxe3+ 30.Kh1 Kxh7 31.Bxg6+ Kh6 32.Bc2! $\pm$ - Δ Bg5 33.Qh3+ Kg7 34.Qh7#) 29.Bxg6 Nxg6 30.Rh6 Qxg5? $\oplus$ (30...Qe4 $\square$ 31.Kh1 $\square$ Rb1 32.Bf6! Rxf1+ 33.Nxf1 Bxf6 34.Rxg6+ Kf7 35.Rg4 $\pm$) 31.Rxg6+ 1-0 (31) Semkov,S- Apicella,M Bulgaria-France 1990/]

[13...c4+!? 14.Kh1 (14.Qd4? Qxd4+ 15.Nxd4 Bxe5 16.Ndb5 a6 17.Bxg4 Bxg4 18.Na3 b5 19.Nc2 Bf5 20.Rac1 Nd7 21.Nb4 f6 22.Bf4 Bxf4 23.Rxf4 Ne5 24.Rcf1 Nd3 25.Nxd3 Bxd3 26.Rd1 f5 27.a4 b4 28.Na2 a5 29.Nc1 Bc2-+ Cozic,E-Perrin,G/FRA 1999/)

A) 14...Nf2+ 15.Rxf2 Qxf2 16.Ne4 Qb6 17.Nd6

A1) 17...h6 18.Nxe8 hxg5 19.Nxg7 Kxg7 20.Qd2 g4 21.Nd4 Nd7 22.Qf4 Nf8 23.Rf1 Bf5 24.d6 Ne6 25.Nxf5+ gxf5 26.Qxf5 Rf8 27.Qxg4+ Kh8 28.Rf3 Ng7 29.Rh3+ 1-0 Bagaturov,G-Koukoufikis,I/Chania 2000/;

A2) 17...Rxe5 18.Nxc8? ($\triangle 18.Nxc4$) 18...Qxb2 19.Nxe5 Qxe5 20.Rb1 Qxg5 21.Rxb7 Nd7 22.Nd6 Ne5 0-1 Ponce Garcia,J-Roig Ruiz,C/ Barcelona 1996/;

A3) 17...Rf8 18.Be7 Bg4 19.Nxc4 Qf2

A3a) 20.Bxf8 Bxf8 21.Qd3 Nd7 22.Rf1 Qc5 23.Ng5 ($\triangle 23.h3$ Bf5 24.Qd2 Be4 25.e6 fxe6 26.dxe6+-) 23...Bxe2 24.Qxe2 Qxd5 25.Rd1 $\pm$;

A3b) 20.Bh4 Qc5 21.Rc1 Nd7 22.Rc3 Bxf3 23.Bxf3 Rfe8 24.Bg3 Qf8 25.e6 fxe6 26.dxe6 Nb6 27.Nxb6 axb6 28.Rc7 Qf6 29.h3 Kh8 30.Bd5 Qxb2 31.Qf3?! ($\triangle 31.Bxb7$) 31...Qa1+ 32.Kh2 Bd4 33.Bf2 Bxf2 34.Qxf2 Qe5+ 35.g3?? (35.Qg3 $\square$) 35...Qxc7 0-1 Siegmund,R-Hesse,J/ Pizol 1997/;

A4) 17...Bd7 18.Nxe8 Bxe8 19.Bxc4 Qxb2 (19...Nd7 20.Qe2 Rc8 21.Rc1 a6 22.a3 h6 23.Be3 Qd8 24.Bb3 Rxc1+ 25.Bxc1 $\pm$ Cockcroft-Florit,G/Palma de Mallorca 1992/) 20.Rb1 Qc3 21.Qe2 Nd7 22.Rc1 Qa3 23.d6 h6 24.e6 hxg5 25.exf7+ Bxf7 26.Bxf7+ Kh8 (26...Kxf7 27.Nxg5+ Kg8 28.Qc4+ Kh8 29.Qh4+ Kg8 30.Qh7+ Kf8 31.Rf1+ Nf6 32.Rxf6+ Bxf6 33.Qf7#) 27.Rd1

A4a) 27...Qa4 28.Bxg6 (28.Nxg5!?) 28...g4 29.Ng5 Rf8 30.Rd3 Δ $\boxtimes$ d3-h3+! Nf6 31.d7+-;

A4b) 27...Bf6 28.Qe4 Nf8 29.Ne5 Kg7 (29...Qb2 30.Nxg6+ Kg7 31.Nxf8 Kxf7 32.Qg6+ Kxf8 33.Rf1+-) 30.Nd7!! (30.Bb3!?) 30...Kxf7

- (30...Nxd7 31.Qxg6+ Kf8 32.Qg8#; 30...Qb2 31.Nxf8 Kxf7 32.Qxg6+ Kxf8 33.Rf1+-; 30...Rc8 31.Nxf6 Qxd6 32.Bb3 Qxf6 33.Qxb7+ Kh6 34.Qxc8+-) 31.Nxf6 Kxf6 32.Qe7+ 1-0 Konikowski,J-Przybylski,J/corr/ 1999/2001/ (32.Qe7+ Kf5 33.Rd5+ Kf4 34.Qe5+ Kg4 35.Qxg5#);
- B) 14...h6 15.e6 (15.Bf4!? Nf2+ 16.Rxf2 Qxf2 17.Ne4 Qb6 18.Qd2#) 15...fxe6 16.Qc2**
- B1) 16...hgx5 17.Qxg6 Rf8**
- B1a) 18.Nxg5 Rxf1+ (18...Nf2+? 19.Rxf2 Rxf2 20.dxe6+-) 19.Rxf1 (19.Bxf1?? Nf2+ 20.Kg1 Nh3+ 21.Kh1 Qg1#) 19...Nf2+ 20.Rxf2 Qxf2 21.Nf3 Qc5! (21...Bd7? 22.dxe6 Bc6 23.e7+-) 22.Ng5 Qf2=;**
- B1b) 18.Bxc4? exd5 19.Bxd5+ Kh8 20.Qxb6 axb6 21.Nxg5 Ne3 22.Rxf8+ Bxf8 23.Bb3 Ra5#;**
- B2) 16...e5 17.d6 Bf5 18.Qa4 Nc6 19.Nd5 Qxb2 20.d7 Qxe2 21.dxe8Q+ Rxe8 22.Rae1 Qc2 23.Qb5 hxg5 24.Qxb7 Nd8 25.Qxa7 ½-½ (35) Rojo Huerta,G-Sanz Alonso,F/ESP 1990/ c3#;**
- C) 14...Bf5 15.d6**
- C1) 15...Nf2+ 16.Rxf2 Qxf2 17.Nd5 Bd3 (17...Rxe5 18.Nxe5 Bxe5 19.Nc7±) 18.Bxd3 cxd3 19.Nc7 Nd7 20.Nxe8 Rxe8 21.Qa4 Qxb2 22.Rf1 Qe2 23.Re1 Rxe5 24.Rxe2 dxe2 25.Bd2+- Zimmermann,K-Bruch,I/GER 1998/;**
- C2) 15...Nd7 16.Nd5 Qxb2 17.Ne7+ Kh8 18.Nxf5 gxf5 19.Bxc4 Ndx5 (19...Nf2+ 20.Rxf2 Qxf2 21.Bxf7 Bxe5 22.Rc1±) 20.Rb1 Nf2+ 21.Rxf2 Qxf2 22.Nxe5 Bxe5 23.d7 Red8 24.Bxf7 h6 25.Qh5 Bg7 26.Bxh6 1-0 Kirschbaum,G-Schmidt,J/Germany 1996/;**
- D) 14...Nxe5 15.Nxe5 Bxe5 16.Bxc4 Bf5 (16...Qxb2!?) 17.Nb5 (17.Qb3!?) 17...Na6 18.d6 Qc6 19.Rc1 Qd7 20.Nd4 Qxd6 21.Nxf5 gxf5 22.Qxd6 Bxd6 23.Rxf5 Rf8 24.Bh6 Rfc8 25.Rxf7 Rxc4 26.Rg7+ Kh8 27.Rxc4+- Hausner,I-Doskocil,K/Austria 1998/;**
- E) 14...Nd7**
- E1) 15.d6**
- E1a) 15...Ndx5 16.Nd5 (16.Nxe5 Nxe5 17.Nd5 Qxb2 18.Nc7 Bf5↑) 16...Qxb2 17.Nc7 Nf2+? (17...Nxf3!) 18.Rxf2 Ng4 19.Kg1 Nxf2 20.Kxf2 Bf5 (20...Qxa1 21.Qxa1 Bxa1 22.Nxe8 b5 23.Nf6+ Bxf6 24.Bxf6 Be6 25.Ne5 Δd6-d7-d8) 21.Rc1 Bd3 22.Nxe8 Rxe8 23.d7 Qb6+ 24.Kg3 Qd6+ 25.Bf4 Qxd7 26.Bxd3 cxd3 27.Rc7 Qf5 28.Rxb7 h6 29.Rb8 Rxb8 30.Bxb8 g5 31.h3 h5 32.Qa4 Bc3 33.Qe8+ Kg7 34.Qe3± Birens,E-Sanglan,P/Paris 1994/;**
- E1b) 15...Nf2+ 16.Rxf2 Qxf2**
- E1b1) 17.Nd5 Nxe5 18.Ne7+ Kh8 19.Nxe5 Bxe5 20.Nxc8 Rexc8 21.Bf3 (21.d7 Rd8 22.Bxd8 Rxd8 23.Qc2 b5 24.Rf1 Qh4 25.g3 Qd4 26.Rxf7 Rxd7 27.Rxd7 Qxd7#) 21...Rd8 22.Qd5 Qxb2 23.Re1 Rxd6 24.Qxe5+ Qxe5 25.Rxe5 f6 26.Bf4 Rd4 27.Bg3 Rad8 28.Re1 c3 29.Kg1 c2 30.Kf1 g5 31.Bf2 Rd1+- Pastor,K-Lybin,D/Frydek-**

Mistek 1996/;

E1b2) 17.Bxc4 Nxe5 18.Ne4 Qb6 19.Nxe5 Rxe5 20.Nf6+ Bxf6 21.Bxf6 Rf5 22.Be7 Bd7 23.b3 Qc5 24.a4 a6 25.Qe2 Rf2 26.b4 Qd4 27.Qe1 Rc8 28.Rd1 Qg4 29.Qg1 Rxc4 0-1 Kouatly,B-Povah,N/ Ramsgate 1979/;

E2) 15.e6 fxe6 16.dxe6 Ndf6

E2a) 17.h3 Qxb2 18.Na4?? (Δ 18.Rc1) 18...Nf2+ 19.Rxf2 Ne4 20.Rf1 Ng3+ 21.Kg1 Qxa1 22.Qxa1 Bxa1 23.Rxa1 Nxe2+ 24.Kf2 Bxe6 25.Re1 c3 26.Rxe2 Rac8 27.Nd4 Bd7 0-1 Kouatly,B-Murey,J/Lyon 1988/;

E2b) 17.Nd4 Bxe6 18.Nxe6 Qxe6 19.Qa4 Rac8 20.Bf4 a6 21.Bf3 b5 22.Qa5 Rc5 23.Rad1 Bf8 24.Rd8 Nf2+ 25.Kg1 Nd3 26.Bd2 b4 27.Rxe8 Nxe8 0-1 Bode,U-Reschke,S/Yaroslavl 1990/;

E2c) 17.Bxc4 Bxe6 18.Bxe6+ Rxe6 (18...Qxe6 19.Qb3 Qxb3 20.axb3 a6 21.Rae1 Rxe1 22.Rxe1 Nf2+ 23.Kg1 Nd3 24.Re2 h6 25.Be3 Re8 26.Bd4 Rxe2 27.Nxe2 Nd5 $\neq$ Kalousek,V-Farago,S/Budapest 1998/) 19.Qd4 Ne4 20.Qxb6 axb6 21.Nxe4 Rxe4 22.h3 Ne3 23.Rfe1 Nf5 24.g4 Ng3+ 25.Kg2 Ne2 1-0 Vaisser,A-Murey,J/Paris 1990/;

E2d) 17.e7 Rxe7 (17...Be6 18.Qd4 Qxd4 19.Nxd4 Bf7 20.Ndb5 h6 21.Bxf6 Nxf6 22.Nc7 Rac8 23.Nxe8 Rxe8 24.Rf4 g5 25.Rxc4 Rxe7 26.Rc8+ Ne8 27.Bf3+- Gerard,N-Murey,J/Saint Quentin 2000/)

E2d1) 18.Nd5? Nxd5 19.Qxd5+ Be6 20.Qe4

E2d11) 20...Rf7 21.Bxc4 Bxc4 22.Qxc4 Nf2+ 23.Rxf2 Qxf2 24.Rf1 Qxb2 25.Ne5 Qxe5 26.Qxf7+ Kh8 27.Bh4 Rf8?

(Δ 27...Qb5) 28.Qxf8+ Bxf8 29.Bf6+ Qxf6 30.Rxf6+- Semkov,S-Murey,J/Cannes 1989/;

E2d12) 20...Rc7 21.Rad1 Rf8 22.h3 Nf6 23.Qh4 Bd5 24.Bf4 Re7 25.Rd2 Rfe8 26.Rxd5 Nxd5 27.Bxc4 Qc5 28.b3 b5 29.Bxd5+ Qxd5 30.Rc1 Bb2 31.Rc7 Rxc7 32.Bxc7 Re2+- Jones,B-Povah,N/ Chester 1979/;

E2d2) 18.Bxc4+ Be6 19.Qd4 Bxc4 20.Qxc4+ Kh8 21.Na4 Nf2+ 22.Kg1 Nh3+ 23.Kh1 Nf2+ (23...Qg1+?? 24.Nxg1+-) 24.Kg1 Nh3+=;

E2d3) 18.Qd4! Qxd4 (18...Qxb2? 19.Rab1 Qa3 20.h3 $\pm$) 19.Nxd4 Bd7 20.Bxc4+ Kh8= Modern Benoni-12.Bg5 Qb6 13.0-0 c4 Survey 2015 Lexikon15 [Ftacnik,Konikowski]]

14.d6 begins a long theoretical line where Black is fine Ftacnik,Konikowski: 'Stohl: 'This forcing tactical line occurs rarely nowadays, as Black has more than one satisfactory continuation.'

[14.Nxe5 Bxe5 (14...Rxe5 15.Qd2 Bf5 16.Rae1 Nd7 17.d6 c4+ 18.Kh1 Qc5 19.Bf4 Rd8 20.Bxe5 Nxe5 21.Qf4 Qxd6 22.Bxc4 Nxc4 1/2 (22) Banikas,H (2542)-Grigore,G (2508) Genova 2000) 15.Bc4? almost always played, but a mistake - Petrov, and he's right Edouard,R: '(old theory) new engines showed that

for example' (15.Qd2 Bf5 $\bar{7}$)

A) 15...Bf5 sollte die schwarze Stellung in Ordnung sein. Ftacnik,Konikowski: 'is very good for Black.' 16.Nb5 (16.d6 Qxd6 17.Qxd6 Bxd6 18.Nd5 Nd7 19.Bb5 Re5 20.Bxd7 Rxd5 21.Bxf5 gxf5 22.Rad1 Rxd1 23.Rxd1 Be5 24.Rd7 b5 25.b3 f4 26.Kf2 c4 27.bxc4 bxc4 $\bar{7}$ 0-1 (51) Elbilia,J-Akopian,V (2550) Lyon 1990)

A1) 16...a6 17.d6 axb5 18.Bxf7+ Kxf7 19.Rxf5+ gxf5 20.Qh5+ Kf8 21.Qxh7 (21.Bh6+ Bg7 22.Rf1 c4+ 23.Kh1 Qf2 24.Bxg7+ Kxg7 25.Qg5+ Kf8 26.Qh6+ Kg8 27.Qg5+ 1/2 (27) Arencibia,W (2535)-Vera,R (2516) Santa Clara 2006) 21...Qxd6 22.Bh6+ Qxh6 23.Qxh6+ Bg7 24.Qd6+ Kg8 25.Qd5+ Kh8 26.Qxf5 Nc6 27.Qh5+ Kg8 28.Qd5+ 1/2 (32) Vaisser,A (2565)-Apicella,M (2560) France 1996;

A2) 16...Nd7 17.a4 f6 (17...a5? 18.Ra3! Δ b3 $\uparrow$) 18.a5N (18.Bh6) 18...Qd8 19.Bh6 Kh8 20.d6 Bxb2 (20...a6 21.Nc7 Bd4+ 22.Kh1 Ne5 ∞) 21.Ra2 Ne5 22.Be2 Bd4+ 23.Nxd4 cxd4 24.Qxd4= 1/2 (56) Vaisser,A-Akopian,V Uzhorod 1988/;

B) 15...Qxb2 16.d6 (16.Nb5 Bf5 17.Rc1 Nd7 18.d6 Nb6 19.Bd3 Be6 20.Nc7 Qxa2 21.Nxe8 Rxe8 22.Be4 Bd4+ 23.Kh1 Nc4 24.Be7 Qa6 25.d7 Bxd7 26.Bxc5 Rxe4 27.Bxd4 Qe6 28.Qd3 b5 29.Bxa7 1/2 (29) Papaioannou,I (2542)-Cela,A (2536) Athens 1999)

B1) 16...Bf5?! 17.Rxf5 gxf5 18.Bxf7+ Kf8 (18...Kxf7? 19.Qh5+ Kf8 20.Bh6+ Bg7 21.Rf1!+-) 19.Bxe8 Qxc3 20.Be7+ Kxe8 21.Qh5+ Kd7 22.Qxf5+ Kc6 23.Qe4+ Kd7 Stohl: '□' 24.Qxb7+ $\equiv$ Vaiser/;

B2) 16...Rf8

B2a) 17.Rxf7 Rxf7 18.Bxf7+ Kg7 $\bar{7}$;

B2b) 17.Nb5!? Stohl: '?!' Qxa1 18.Qf3 $\equiv$ Qb2 19.Bxf7+ Kg7 20.Be7 Bf5 21.Bxf8+ Kxf7 22.Qxb7+ Nd7 23.Qxd7+ Kg8! $\bar{7}$;

B2c) 17.Rc1 Bxc3? ($\triangleleft$ 17...Bf5 18.Nd5 Nc6 $\equiv$) 18.Rb1 Bd4+□ (18...Qa3? 19.Rxf7!) 19.Kh1 Qc3 20.Rc1 Qb4

B2c1) 21.a3!? Qb2 (21...Qxa3 22.Rxf7 $\pm$ Rxf7 23.Qe1) 22.Rb1 Qc3 23.Rc1=;

B2c2) 21.Be7 Nd7 (21...Re8?? 22.Bxf7+ Kg7 23.Bxe8+-) 22.Bxf8 Nxf8 23.Rxf7 Be6□ 24.Bxe6 Nxe6 25.Re7 Ng7 26.Qf3N (26.d7 Qb5?? 27.Qxd4+- Qf1+ 28.Rxf1 cxd4 29.Rc1) 26...Rf8 27.Qd5+ Kh8 28.d7 Qd2 29.Rce1 Nf5 (29...Nf5 30.-- Ng3+ 31.hxg3 Qh6+ 32.Qh5 Qxh5#) 30.Qf3□

B2c21) 30...Qxa2 31.Re8+- Qf2 32.Rxf8+ Kg7 33.Rg8+!! Kh6 (33...Kxg8 34.d8Q+ Kg7 35.Qc7+) 34.Qxf2 Bxf2 35.d8Q!;

B2c22) 30...Rd8

B2c221) 31.Re8+ Kg7 32.g4 ∞ (32.Rxd8?? Qxe1+; 32.R1e7+? Kh6) 32...Rxd7 33.gxf5 Bf6 34.fxg6 hxg6=;

B2c222) 31.R7e2 Qg5 32.Re8+ Kg7 33.Rxd8 Qxd8 34.Qxb7 Nd6 35.Qxa7 Kh6 36.Qa4 (36.Re8?? Qf6) 36...Nf7 37.Re8

1-0 (37) Dubois,Y (2149)-Chevrier,J (1954) AJEC 2009

Kommentierte Partien 2024 [Dauthuis,Fernand] (37.Re8 Qg5);

B2d) 17.Bxf7+ Kg7 (17...Rxf7? 18.Qd5 Bd4+ 19.Kh1 Bf5 20.Rab1 Qxc3 21.Rxb7 Nd7 22.Rxd7 Raf8 23.Rxf7 Rxf7 24.d7+-)

B2d1) 18.Qd5 Stohl: '?' Qxc3 19.Rad1 Bf5 20.Rf3 (20.Qxb7 Nd7-+) 20...Bd4+ 21.Kh1 Qxf3! (21...Qc2?! 22.Rxd4 cxd4 23.Qxd4+ Kxf7 24.Rc3≠) 22.gxf3 Rxf7 23.Bh6+ Kg8 24.Re1 Nc6 25.h4 Bg7≠

0-1 (41) Semkov,S-Marin,M Berga 1990/;

B2d2) 18.Nb5 Qxa1 19.Bh6+ Kxh6 20.Qd2+ Bf4!? 21.Qxf4+ g5-+;

B2d3) 18.Be7 Bd4+ 19.Kh1 (19.Qxd4+ cxd4 20.Bxf8+ Kxf8 21.Be6+ Kg7-+) 19...Rxf7-+;

B2d4) 18.Bd5

B2d41) 18...Qxc3?! 19.Rxf8 Kxf8 (19...Qd4+? 20.Rf2±) 20.Qf1+ Bf5 21.Rd1↑ Nd7 22.g4 Kg7 23.gxf5 Qc2? (23...Rf8? 24.Be6!±; 23...h6!≠) 24.Rd2 Qxf5 25.Qxf5 gxf5 26.Be7= 1-0 (36) Vaisser,A-Berthelot,Y France 1992/ Modern Benoni-12.Bg5 Qb6 13.0-0 Ne5 Survey 2015 Lexikon15 [Ftacnik,Konikowski];

B2d42) 18...Rf5!?;

B2d43) 18...Bf5?! 19.Qc1! Qxc3 20.Bh6+ Kh8 21.Qxc3 Bxc3 22.Bxf8 Nd7 23.Be7 Bxa1 24.Rxa1≡;

B2d44) 18...Rxf1+?! 19.Qxf1 Bf5 20.Re1! Qxc3 21.Bxb7 Bxd6 22.Bxa8 Nd7≡;

B2d45) 18...Nd7 19.Rxf8 Nxf8≠]

14...Qxb2

[14...Nbd7 15.Nd5 Qxb2 16.Rb1 Nxf3+ 17.Bxf3 Qd4+ 18.Kh1 Qxd1 19.Rfxd1 Rb8 20.Be7 b6 21.Nc7 Rf8 22.Bc6 Ne5 23.Bxf8 Bxf8 24.Bb5 1/2 (41) Sosonko,G (2575)-Scheeren,P Leeuwarden 1978 Bf5≠]

[14...c4+!? 15.Kh1 Be6 16.Nxe5 Bxe5 17.Nd5 Qc5 18.Nc7 Nd7 19.Nxe8N (19.Nxa8) 19...Rxe8 20.Bf4 Bxb2 21.Rb1 c3 22.Qa4 Rc8 23.Qb5 Qxb5 24.Bxb5 a6 25.Bxd7 ½-½ (25) Kahn,E (2290)-Volman,H (2175) Budapest 106/ (189) 2009 Cl1-130 [Da Costa Junior,Luiz Roberto]]

15.Nd5 Nxf3+

[15...Bf5 16.Ne7+ Rxe7 17.dxe7 Nbc6

A) 18.Kh1 Nxf3 (18...Re8!?) 19.Bxf3 Qxa1 20.Bxc6! Qxd1 21.Rxd1+- Δ♞d8 Ilic,D-Sandic,V Jugoslavija 1989 [Stohl];

B) 18.Rc1

B1) 18...h6!? 19.Bh4 Re8 20.Kh1

B1a) 20...Ng4!?!↑ Da Costa Junior,Luiz Roberto: '!' 21.Qd2□ (21.Qb3; 21.Re1) 21...Qxd2 22.Nxd2 Nxe7 23.Rxc5 Nc6≠;

B1b) 20...Nxe7 Da Costa Junior,Luiz Roberto: 'Ü 23/137' 21.Rxc5 N7c6 22.Nxe5 (22.Rb5 Qxa2 23.Rxb7 Ng4≠ Goregliad,S-Byrne,R/New York 1988/) 22...Rxe5 23.Rxe5 Bxe5= /≠;

B2) 18...Re8

B2a) 19.Kh1 Nxe7 (19...h6 usually transposes into 18.♞c1) 20.Rxc5 N7c6 21.Rb5 Qxa2 22.Rxb7 Be4 23.Rb5 Nxf3 24.Bxf3 Bxf3 25.Rxf3 Nd4 26.Re3 Rc8 27.Rb1 Qa5 28.Rc1 Ovezova,M-Hernandez,Y/Manila olw/1992/ Ra8!?=;

B2b) 19.Re1♞;

B2c) 19.Nxe5 Qxe5 20.Bb5

B2c1) 20...Be6 21.Bxc6

B2c11) 21...bxc6? 22.Qd8 Qd4+ 23.Kh1 Qd7 24.Rcd1 Bd4 25.Bf6! h6 (25...Qc8 26.Rxd4 cxd4 27.Qxd4 Qa6 28.Rd1 c5 29.Qa1+-) 26.Rfe1! Kh7! 27.Rxe6 Qxe6 28.Bxd4 Qxe7 29.Qxe7 Rxe7 30.Bxc5+-;

B2c12) 21...Qd4+ 22.Kh1 (22.Be3? Qxe3+ 23.Kh1 Rxe7 24.Qd8+ Bf8♞) 22...bxc6 23.Be3

B2c121) 23...Qxe3? 24.Qd8 Rxd8 (24...Bd7? 25.Rfe1+-) 25.exd8Q+ Bf8±;

B2c122) 23...Qh4! 24.Rxc5!? (24.Bxc5? Be5; 24.Qd6 Qxe7 25.Qxe7 Rxe7 26.Bxc5=) 24...Qxe7 25.Rxc6 Bxa2=;

B2c123) 23...Qxd1?! 24.Rfxd1 Bd4? (24...Bd5 25.Bxc5 Bf6 26.Re1 Be6±) 25.Rxc5!± 1-0 (33) Vaisser,A-Degraeve,J Capelle la Grande 1987/;

B2c2) 20...Be4♞ 21.Bh4 (21.Qd7 Qd4+ 22.Qxd4 Bxd4+ 23.Kh1 Kg7 24.Rce1 Bd5 Δh6,g5,♙e6↑; 21.Qb3!? Bd5♞) 21...Qb2 22.Qg4 Bd4+ 23.Kh1 f5 24.Bc4+ Kg7 25.Qg3 Nxe7♞ Barsov,A-Marin,M/ Budapest/1990/]

16.Bxf3 Qd4+ Ftacnik,Konikowski: '!' Ftacnik,Konikowski: 'leads to the same position as the text move.'

[16...Nc6? 17.Nf6+! Bxf6 18.Bxf6 Qxf6 19.Bxc6±]

[For Stohl: 'Black can't untangle himself without the back rank tricks after'

16...Qxa1? see above. 17.Qxa1 Bxa1 18.Rxa1 Nd7 ChessBase II: '□' (18...Bd7?? 19.Nf6+ Kg7 20.Nxe8+ Bxe8 21.Bxb7 Bc6 22.d7 1-0 (22)

Lefebvre,H (2284)-Menard,B (1829) Aix les Bains 2011 CBM 142 Extra

[ChessBase II]) 19.Be7 Rb8 20.Nc7 Rf8 21.Re1 c4 22.Bxf8 Kxf8 23.Re8+ Kg7 24.Kf1 b5 25.Bd5 Nf6 26.Rd8 Nxd5 27.Nxd5+- Bohm,H-Kerkmeester,H/ Velp/1978/]

17.Kh1 Qxa1 18.Qxa1 Bxa1 19.Rxa1 Nd7

[19...Re5 Ftacnik,Konikowski: '!']

A) 20.Bf4!? Rxd5 (20...Rf5 21.Ne7+ Kg7 22.Nxf5+ gxf5 23.Re1 Nd7 24.Re7 Nb6 25.a4 Be6 26.a5 Nd7 27.a6♞) 21.Bxd5 Nc6 (21...Nd7 22.Re1♞) 22.Bxc6 bxc6 23.Rc1 Bd7 24.Rxc5 Rb8 25.h3 Rb5 26.Rc3=;

B) 20.Ne7+ Kg7 21.Nxc8 Nd7 22.Bxb7 Rb8 23.Bc6 Rxg5 24.Bxd7 c4 Ftacnik,Konikowski: '!' 25.Nxa7□ (25.h4 c3! 26.Ba4 Rd5 27.Nxa7 Rb4+- Dobos,J-Schlosser,M/Balatonbereny op/1989/; 25.Ne7? Rd8+-)

B1) 25...Rd8 26.Bb5

B1a) 26...c3 27.h4! (27.d7? c2 28.Kg1 Rd5 29.Ba4 R8xd7-+)
27...Rg4 (27...Rd5 28.Rc1±) 28.d7↑;

B1b) 26...Rxd6 27.Bxc4 Rd2 28.Rg1 Rc5±;

B2) 25...c3 26.Ba4 (26.a4? c2 27.Nb5 Rd5 28.Bg4 Rbxb5! 29.axb5
Rxb5 0-1, Neurohr, S-Schlosser, M/St Ingbert/1988/) 26...Rd5 (26...Rb2
27.Rd1 Rgxc2 28.d7 Rxh2+ ½, Tozer, R-Schlosser, M/Oakham/1988/) 27.d7
Rb4 28.Nc6 Rxa4 29.d8Q Rxd8 30.Nxd8 c2 31.Nc6 Rc4 Finally a new
move! Black takes back his piece, but can't win the resulting ♖♙. (Enough for
a draw is also 31...Rxa2 32.Rc1 Rb2 33.Nd4 Rb1 34.Ne2 Rxc1+ 35.Nxc1
Kf6 Ooi Chern Ee-Kahn, E/Budapest/1997/) 32.Rc1 Rxc6 33.Kg1 g5
(33...Kf6 34.Kf2 Ke5 35.Ke3=)

B2a) 34.Kf2 g4! Δ 35.Ke3 f5 36.Kd3 (36.g3? h5! 37.Kd3 h4±)
36...Rh6±;

B2b) 34.h3! Kg6 35.Kf2 Kh5 36.a4= 1/2 (48) Thorfinnsson, B (2393)-
Jobava, B (2556) Leon 2001/ Now with Black's ♔ committed to the » White
uses his ♙ to achieve a theoretically drawn ♙ with pawns on one flank.]

20.Be7 Rb8 21.Nc7 Rf8 22.Re1 c4

[22...b5!

A) 23.Bd5! c4 24.Bxf8 Nxf8 25.Re8 c3 26.Bb3 Kg7 27.Na6 (27.Nxb5
Rxb5 28.Rxc8 Rb6 29.Rc7 Ne6 30.d7 Rd6±) 27...Rb6 28.Rxc8 Rxa6
29.Rc7 Rxd6 30.Rxf7+ Kh6 31.Rxf8 Rd2 32.Kg1 Rb2 33.Rf2 Rb1+=;

B) 23.Bxf8 Kxf8 (23...Nxf8? 24.Re8 Kg7 25.Bc6 c4 26.Nxb5±) 24.Re8+
Kg7 25.Bc6 b4

B1) 26.Bxd7 b3 27.axb3 Rxb3 28.h3 (28.h4 Bxd7 29.Re7 Bf5 30.d7
Rd3-+) 28...Bxd7 29.Re7 Bc6 30.d7 Rxh3+ 31.Kg1 Rd3 32.d8Q Rxd8
33.Ne6+ Kf6 34.Nxd8 Kxe7 35.Nxc6+ Kd6 36.Nxa7 c4-+;

B2) 26.h3 Nf6 Garcia, P-Nunez, A/Ciego de Avila/1989/]

23.Bxf8 Kxf8

[23...Nxf8 24.Re8 c3 25.Be4 Bf5 26.Rxb8 Bxe4 27.Ne6! fxe6 28.d7 c2
29.Rxf8+-]

24.Re8+

[24.Bd5 Nf6 (24...Nb6 25.Re8+ Kg7 26.Bxc4±) 25.Bxc4 b5 26.Bb3!
(26.Bxb5 Rb6 27.Ne8 Rxb5 28.Nxf6 Be6=) 26...Be6 27.Nxe6+ fxe6 28.Rxe6
Kg7□ 29.Re7+ Kh6 30.Rxa7±]

24...Kg7 25.Nb5 Nf6 26.Rd8 a6 27.Nc3!

[27.Na7 c3 28.Bd1 Ne4 29.Nxc8 Nxd6 30.Rxd6 Rxc8 31.Bc2 Re8 32.Rd1
Re2 33.Rc1 b5 ♣ Petrov the computers say = but it's definitely better to play Black
here of course]

27...b5 28.Nd5 Nd7 29.Ne7 led to a draw in Shishkin, V (2201)-Borisovs, L (2245)
LSS email 2008

12.0-0 is not very good. 12...Nxe5 13.Bf4

[Après réflexion 13.Nxe5!? scheint etwas schlechter zu sein ,zum Beispiel: Bxe5
14.Bf4 Bd4+ 15.Kh1 a6 16.Qd2 Nd7 17.Rae1 b5±]

13...Nbd7

[13...Bf5 Ftacnik,Konikowski: '!' 14.Qd2 (14.Nxe5 Bxe5 15.Qd2 Nd7 16.Rad1 a6 17.Bxe5 Nxe5 18.Qf4 c4 19.g4 Qb6+ 20.Kh1 Bd3 21.Bxd3 Nxd3 22.Qxf7+ Kh8 23.Rd2 Ne5 24.Qf4± 1-0 (40) Vaisser,A (2555)-Renet,O (2535) Brussels 1993) 14...Nbd7 15.Rad1 c4 16.Kh1 Nd3 Sydor,A-Hever,M/HUN/ 1976/]

[13...Nxf3+ 14.Bxf3 Nd7 transposes]

14.d6

[14.Bb5!? Qb6 15.Nxe5 Bxe5 16.Bxe5 Rxe5 17.Qf3 Rf5 18.Qe2]

Bontems,Cyrille: 'Après' 14...Nxf3+ Bontems,Cyrille: '!'

[14...Qb6

A) 15.Nd5!? Bulletin: 'Belov' Qxd6 (15...Qxb2 16.Nc7 Nxf3+ 17.Bxf3 Qxa1 18.Qxa1 Bxa1 19.Rxa1 Nf6 20.Nxa8+-) 16.Nxe5 Bxe5 (16...Nxe5 17.Bg5 Qc6 18.Ne7+ Rxe7 19.Bxe7 Bf5∞) 17.Bxe5 Qxe5 18.Bb5 f5 19.Qd2;

B) 15.Bb5!?

B1) Logique comme on peut s'en rendre compte en lisant les notes qui précèdent, mais 15...c4+ 16.Kh1 Ng4 visant f2, doit être meilleur, (ou 16...Nd3 17.Bxc4 Nxf4 18.Ng5 Ne5 19.Rxf4 Nxc4 20.Rxc4 et si h6 21.Nd5!? scheint plötzlich das Gleichgewicht zu halten) 17.Bxc4 Nf2+ 18.Rxf2 Qxf2 19.Bxf7+ Kxf7 20.Ne4 Rxe4 21.Qd5+ Kf8 22.Qxe4 =;

B2) 15...Nxf3+ 16.Qxf3 a6 17.Ba4 (Intéressant est aussi 17.Bc4!? conservant la case f7 dans le collimateur. D'où ma question: sur quelle case ce fou est-il le mieux placé ? Qu'en pensez-vous amis lecteurs ?)

(Diagram)

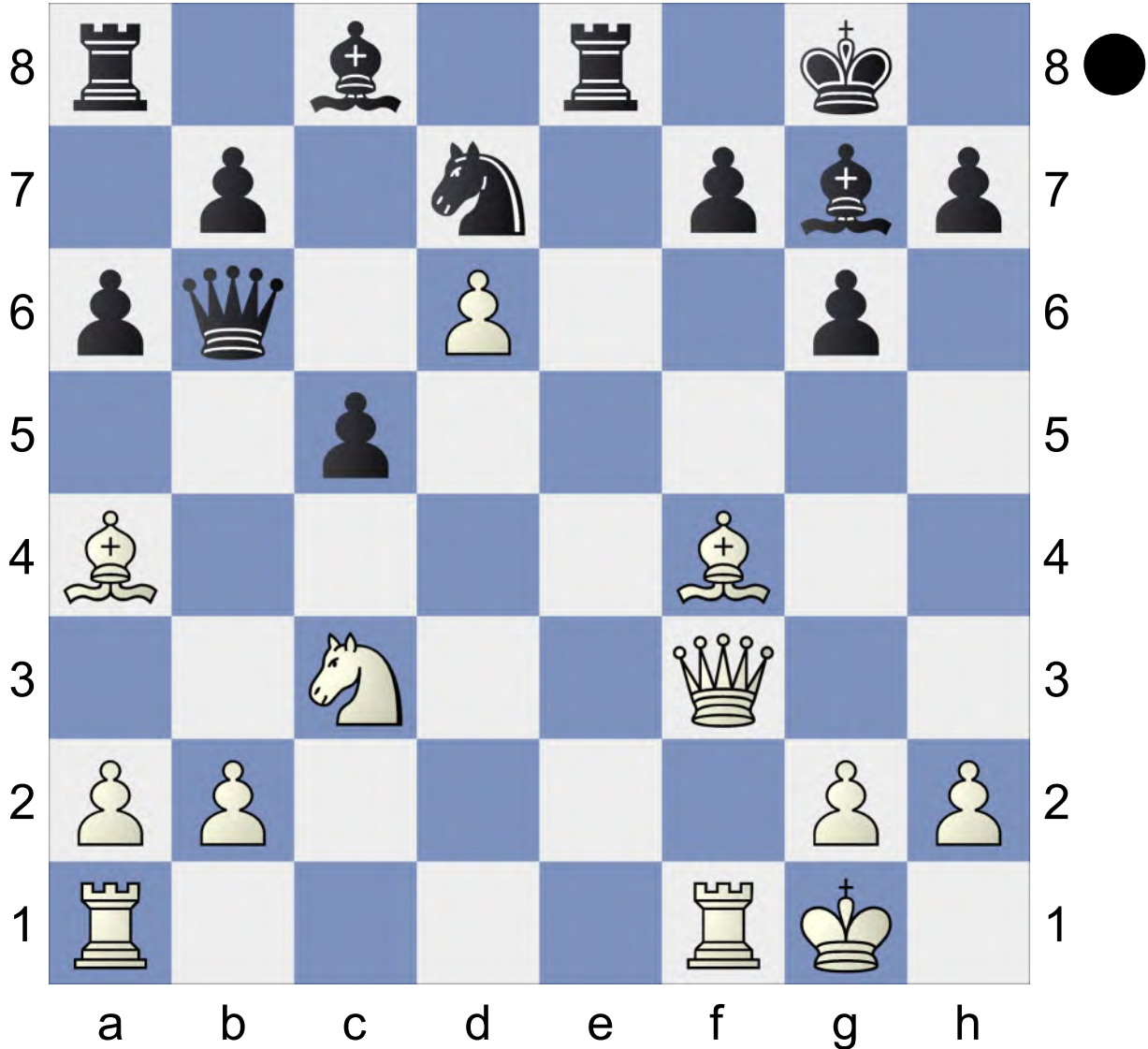
Viser la tour e8 par rayon X et contrôler la case d7 dans l'éventualité d'une poussée du pion d.

B2a) 17...Qxb2 mein erster Gedanke war oh Gott,aber es zeigt sich das Weiß nichts zu befürchten hat.

B2a1) j'ai d'abord envisagé 18.Bc1 mais comme la variante qui suit ne me convenait pas j'ai cherché autre chose et suis tombé sur 18.♙h6 : Ne5 19.Bxb2 Nxf3+ 20.Rxf3 b5 21.Bc2 (21.Bb3 verliert Zeit. c4 22.Bc2 Bb7 23.Rf2 mit leichten schwarzen Vorteil scheint es mir,) 21...Bb7 22.Rd3;

B2a2) 18.Bh6 ist der beste Zug für Weiß mit der Drohung auf f7 18...Ne5 verteidigt f7) 19.Qg3 Bxh6 20.Bxe8 Be6 21.Qxe5 Rxe8 les blancs ont un beau pion passé et de nombreuses colonnes ouvertes pour leurs pièces lourdes. De leur côté, les noirs ont une majorité de pions à l'aile dame associée à la paire de fous. Faites vos jeux ! :);

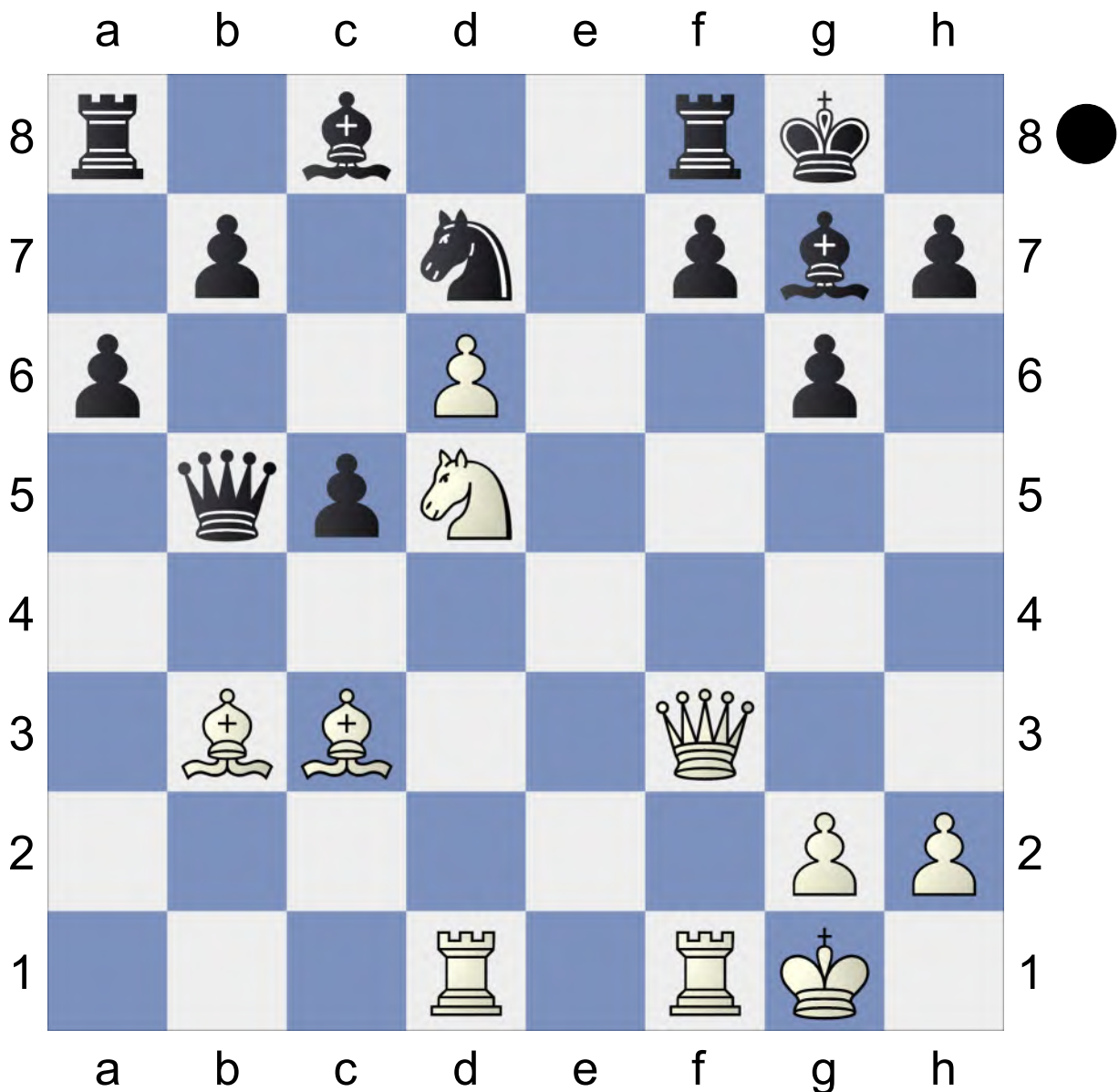
B2b) 17...Rf8 Un coup triste, mais prudent. 18.Nd5 Le cavalier est centralisé et vise aussi bien e7 que c7. Sa collaboration avec la paire de fous peut s'avérer mortelle, mais ici il enlève aussi une case importante à



la dame noire. (18.Bb3?? c4+ verliert ♚; 18.Rab1 est un peu trop défensif à mon goût et perd surtout un temps dans l'attaque. L'ouverture avait pour objectif d'obtenir une avance de développement et une certaine initiative, alors si je joue trop faiblement je m'expose à perdre cet avantage ! Mieux vaut donc essayer d'accumuler les menaces sur le roi noir.) 18...Qxb2 19.Rad1 Qxa2 20.Bb3 Qa3 21.Bc1± Qa5 22.Bd2 Qb5? Sûrement le tournant de la partie... et le début de la fin pour les noirs ! (22...Qa3 était meilleur.) 23.Bc3 (23.Nc7 Ne5)

(Diagram)

Tend un piège pour gagner la dame noire. 23...c4 (Mais les blancs ne tombent pas dedans et évitent 23...Qxb3?? 24.Ne7+ Kh8 25.Bxg7+



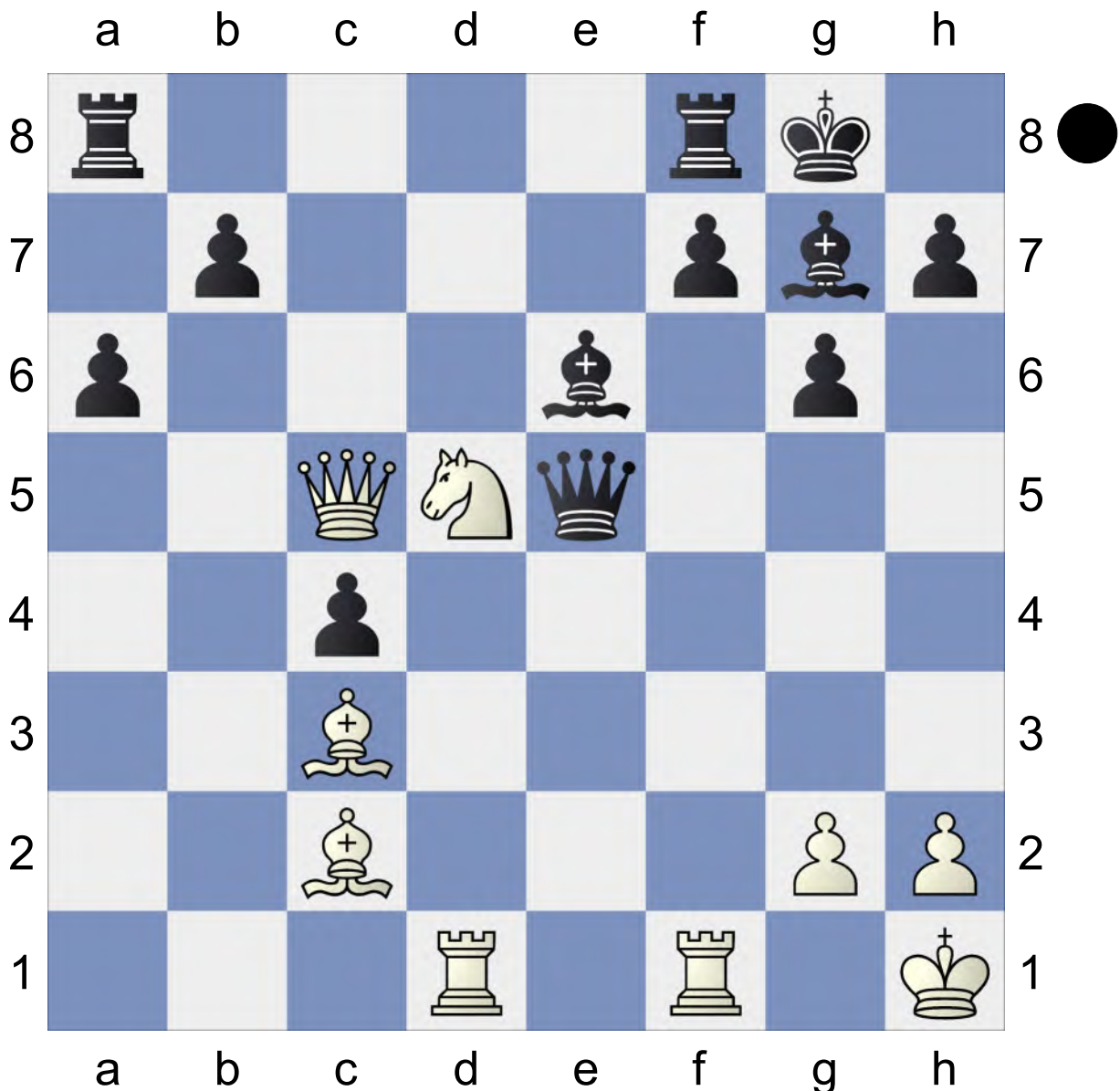
Kxg7 26.Qxb3; D'autre part, si 23...Bxc3?? 24.Qxc3 h5 (forcé pour parer 25.♘e7#) 25.Ne7+ Kh7 26.Rxf7+ et les blancs gagnent.) 24.Bc2
Was für ein tolles ♖paar gerichtet gegen die schwarz Rochade! Weiß nutzt das natürlich aus Qc5+ (Ne va pas : 24...Ne5?? 25.Qf4 d7 Qc5+ 26.Kh1 Ng4 27.Ne7+ (c'est toute l'importance de ce cavalier !) Kh8 28.d7 Bxd7 29.Bxg7+ Kxg7 30.Rxd7 troquant un avantage positionnel pour un autre, ici la septième rangée avec toujours l'attaque de la case f7.) 25.Kh1
Position ist sehr schwierig für Schwarz, und auch irreparabel beeinträchtigt. Qxd6 Entfernt den unangenehmen Stachel, aber zu welchem ??Preis: Die Dame wird nun das Ziel Weiß! 26.Bb4 Nc5 27.Qe3

B2b1) 27...Bg4 ne sauvait rien, mais forçait les blancs à rester vigilants :

B2b11) et non 28.Bxc5? qui perdait l'avantage patiemment construit après Qe6 29.Bxf8 Qxe3 30.Nxe3 Bxd1 31.Bxd1 Kxf8 (ou 31...Rxf8 32.Nxc4 b5 33.Nd6 Bc3) 32.Nxc4 b5 33.Nd6 f5 34.Nb7 Rc8 35.g4 Rc7 36.gxf5 Rxb7 37.fxg6+ Kg8 38.Bb3+ Kh8=;

B2b12) 28.Ne7+ Qxe7 29.Qxe7 Bxd1 30.Rxd1 Ne6 31.Qh4 Rfc8
32.Rd7 b5 33.Qf2 f5 34.g4 a5 35.gxf5 axb4 36.fxe6 Rf8
37.Qc5+-;

B2b2) 27...Qe5 Il devient difficile de recommander des coups aux noirs... 28.Qxc5 Be6 29.Bc3



B2b21) Intéressant (mais insuffisant) était 29...Qxd5 30.Rxd5 Bxc3 (30...Bxd5?! 31.Bxg7 Kxg7 32.Qxd5 b5 33.Kg1 Rab8 34.Rxf7+ Rxf7 35.Qe5+ Rf6 36.Qxb8 Re6 37.Qa7+) 31.Rd6 b5 avec fou et quatre pions, dont trois passés et liés, pour la dame. Donnons une

variante pour les amoureux des finales (et les sceptiques) : 32.Be4 Rac8 33.Qb6 b4 34.Qa5 Rb8 35.Bd5 Bg7 36.Bxe6 fxe6 37.Rxf8+ Rxf8 38.Rd1 c3 39.Qxb4 c2 40.Re1 Bh6 41.Qc4 c1Q 42.Rxc1 Bxc1 43.Qxc1 h5 44.Qc4 Kf7 45.g3 Kf6 46.Qf1+ Ke7 47.Qxa6 Re8 48.Kg2 Kf7 49.Qf1+ Kg7 50.Qc4 e5 51.Kf3 Re7 52.Ke4 Kh7 53.Qb4 Re8 54.h3 Kg7 55.g4 Kf7 56.Qd6 Re7 (56...Kg7 57.gxh5 gxh5 58.Kf5) 57.gxh5 (57.Qxe5?? Rxe5+ 58.Kxe5=) 57...gxh5 58.Qh6 und nach dem Verlust des h-Bauern ist es endgültig aus für Schwarz.;

B2b22) 29...Qe2 Das Ende. 30.Bxg7 Rfd8 (30...Kxg7 31.Qd4+ Kh6+-; 30...Qxc2 31.Nf6+ Kxg7 32.Qe5+-) 31.Be4 Kxg7 32.Qd4+ Kg8 33.Nf6+ Kf8 34.Nxh7+ Avec ce resultat, je finis avec 5 points dans ce tournoi Accession. Mon meilleur résultat depuis la création desdits tournois. Je rêve à une qualification pour le championnat de France même s'il reste encore quelques résultats à obtenir dans ce tournoi mais vraisemblablement nous serons 3 second avec 5 points ce qui ne s'est pas encore vu dans un tel tournoi! J'espère que cet article vous permettra de travailler les notions telles que, avance de développement, initiative, avantage de la paire de fous, changement d'un avantage contre un autre plus intéressant ou tout simplement vous aura permis de passer un agreable moment :) 1-0 (34) Bontems, C (1989)-Brisson, P (2102) AJEC 2011 Kommentierte Partien 2024 [Bontems, Cyrille] (34.Nxh7+ Kg8 35.Nf6+ Kf8 36.Qc5+ Kg7 37.Rde1);

C) 15.Nxe5 Nxe5! (15...Qxb2 Bontems, Cyrille: '?' Bontems, Cyrille: 'ist möglich aber wie so oft ist der b-Bauer etwas vergiftet, die schwarze Dame ist nun ein Angriffsziel. Weiß ergreift die Initiative und mehr siehe folgend Variante' 16.Na4 Qb4∞ Kende, G-Sirkija/URS/1967/ 17.Rb1 Qe4 18.Nxd7 Bxd7 19.Bb5 Bxb5 20.Rxb5 mit Vorteil Weiß.) 16.Bxe5?! (16.Nd5!? Qxd6 17.Bg5) 16...Rxe5 (plus fort que la reprise avec le fou : 16...Bxe5 17.d7!? Bxd7 18.Qxd7±) 17.d7 Bxd7 18.Qxd7 Qxb2

C1) 19.Qxf7+ Kh8

C1a) 20.Qc4 Re3! 21.Rab1 Qxc3 22.Rxb7 1/2 (37) Lorans, S (2170)-Gretry, P (1790) La Reunion 1997/

C1a1) 22...Qd4 23.Kh1 Rae8 24.Qxd4 Bxd4 25.Bb5 Re1 26.g4 R8e7 27.Rxe1 Rxb7 (27...Rxe1+ 28.Kg2 Rb1 29.Kf3 c4 30.Ba6 Rxb7 31.Bxb7=) 28.a4 g5 29.Kg2 Kg7= Die ungleichen ♙ ermöglichen die Kontrolle des Feldes c4 (Bauernvorstoß). 30.Kg3 Rf7 31.Re2 Kf6 32.h4 gxh4+ 33.Kxh4 Re7 34.g5+ Kf7 35.Bc4+ Ke8 36.Rxe7+ Kxe7 37.Kg4 a5 , Lorans - Grétry, La Réunion 1997 (1/2-1/2, 37).;

C1a2) 22...Qe5♣;

C1b) 20.Bf3 Qxc3 21.Qxb7♣;

C2) 19.Rac1? Rf5! (19...Rxe2 20.Nxe2 Qxe2 21.Qxf7+ Kh8 22.Rce1 Qb5 23.Re7 Rg8 24.Rxb7+-)

C2a) 20.Rxf5 gxf5! (20...Qxc1+ 21.Rf1 Qxc3 22.Qxf7+ Kh8 23.Qxb7+) 21.Rf1 Qxc3+;

C2b) 20.Bf3 Bxc3 21.Rb1 Qxa2 22.Rxb7 a5-+ 23.Rd1 Bd4+ 24.Kh1 a4-+ 0-1 (30) Ivanov,S (2535)-Shulman,Y (2490) Minsk 1995/]

[14...Rb8 15.Kh1 Nxf3 16.Rxf3 Ne5 17.Re3 Bf5 18.Nb5 Nd7 19.Re7 Ne5 20.Rxe8+ Qxe8 21.Nxa7 c4+ 1-0 (34) Lautier,J (2660)-Lamoureux,C (2375) Berlin 1997]

15.Bxf3 Ne5 Bontems,Cyrille: 'les blancs ont le choix entre 16.♔d5 et 16.♔b5 ce dernier coup ayant ma préférence.' 16.Nb5 Bd7

[16...Rf8!? is possible as well]

17.Nc7 Nxf3+ 18.Qxf3 Bc6 19.Qg3 Re2 20.Rae1 Bd4+ 21.Kh1 Rxc2 22.Qxc2 Bxc2+ 23.Kxc2 Rc8 24.Re7 Bf6 25.Re8+

[25.Rfe1 Bxe7 26.dxe7 Qd7 27.e8Q+ Rxe8 28.Nxe8 Qg4+ 29.Bg3 Qb4 30.Re2 Qc4 + Petrov]

25...Qxe8 26.Nxe8 Rxe8 27.d7 Rd8 28.Rd1 Bd4 29.b4! White is almost equalizing

⁹³ **13.d6** Vigorito,D: 'has been played here too. Black has a lot of choice.' Ftacnik, Konikowski: 'This move had already been played by Vaisser but it seemed to me like many things were good for Black there. So I only looked a bit at things after 13.♔g5 before the game: a bad decision since my opponent was brave enough to repeat 13.d6.'

[We looked at 13.Bg5 in Zylla-Suvorov, see the PGN Archive.

A) 13...Nf6 14.d6 h6 15.Bxf6 Qxf6 (B. Jobava - V. Bologan, Turin 2006) 16.0-0 (16.Nb5 Bd7 17.Nc7 Nc6 18.Nxa8 Rxa8 19.0-0 Nb4 20.Qd2 Bc6 21.Rae1 Bd5 22.b3 Qc3 23.Bc4 Bxc4 24.bxc4 Qxc4 25.Ne5± 1-0 (30) Jobava,B (2646)-Bologan,V (2666) Turin 2006) 16...Bd7 17.Kh1! Bc6 18.Bb5± White has the initiative.;

B) 13...Qb6 14.Qd2 Ftacnik,Konikowski: 'and now for example:' c4! 15.0-0-0 exd5 (Almost always played, but other moves such as 15...Nd7 are feasible.)

B1) 16.Rhe1 Nc6 17.Bxc4 Bf5 Trajko Nedev: '!?' 18.Bxd5+ Kh8 19.Nh4 Trajko Nedev: '(I. Popov - E. Inarkiev, Dagomys 2008)' Nb4 (19...Bd7 20.Rxe8+ Rxe8 21.Bf7 Rf8 22.Qxd7 Bxc3 23.bxc3 Nce5 24.Qe6 Rxf7) 20.Nxf5 gxf5 21.Rxe8+ Rxe8 22.Bc4 h6 23.Qd7 1/2-1/2 (23) Popov,I (2594)-Inarkiev,E (2684) Dagomys 2008;

B2) 16.Nxd5

B2a) There is also the forcing 16...Qxb2+ 17.Qxb2 Bxb2+ 18.Kxb2 Rxe2+ 19.Kc3± as in Jobava,B (2704)-Ponkratov,P (2611) Moscow 2012. This does not look easy to play for Black, and White won rather quickly. Nc6 20.Rhe1 Rxe1 21.Rxe1 Bf5 (21...h6!?) 22.h3 Nf2 23.Bh6 Nd3 Ftacnik,Konikowski: '?!' Edouard,R: '?!' (23...Ne4+!? 24.Rxe4 Bxe4

25.Nf6+ Kf7 26.Nxe4 Ke6 should be OK for Black.) 24.Ng5± B. Jobava - P. Ponkratov, Moscow 2012 Ftacnik, Konikowski: '!' Ftacnik, Konikowski: '1-0 (31) Jobava, B (2704)-Ponkratov, P (2611) Moscow 2012' Edouard, R: '!' Edouard, R: '1-0 (31) Jobava, B (2704)-Ponkratov, P (2611) Moscow RUS 2012' Nce5 25.Rf1 b5 26.g4 b4+ 27.Kd4 Rd8 28.gxf5 b3 29.axb3 cxb3 30.fxg6 hxg6 31.Ke4 1-0 (31) Jobava, B (2704)-Ponkratov, P (2611) Moscow 2012;

B2b) 16...Qc5!? 17.Be7! The only move really. White is down a pawn and his king is not so secure, so he has to use his development lead to force the pace. Qc6 (Not 17...Rxe7? 18.Nxe7+ Qxe7 19.Qd8+ Qf8 20.Bxc4+ Kh8 21.Qxf8+ Bxf8 22.Rd8+-) 18.Bb4 (18.Bg5 would allow a repetition, but there is also Nf2!; 18.Rhe1 Be6 19.Ng5 Ne5 20.Nxe6 Qxe6 21.Bxc4 Nxc4 22.Rxe6 Nxd2 23.Kxd2 Nc6 24.Nc7 Rac8 25.Nxe8 Rxe8= Equal chances, quiet position.) 18...Bh6 19.Ng5□ Rxe2□ 20.Qxe2 Bxg5+ 21.Bd2! (21.Kb1? Bf5+ 22.Ka1 Na6! and ...Re8-+ is too strong an initiative to face) 21...Qxd5 22.Qe8+ Kg7 23.Qxc8 Black does not have his pieces all out and the g4-knight is hanging.

B2b1) 23...Nf2 seems ok too. 24.Rhf1 Nd7! (24...Nxd1? 25.Qf8#) 25.Qxa8 Nxd1 26.Rxd1 c3! 27.bxc3 Qc6 28.Bxg5 (28.Kc2 Qa4+) 28...Qxc3+ 29.Kb1 Qb4+ with a draw;

B2b2) 23...c3! 24.Bxg5 (Not 24.bxc3?! Qc6! 25.Qxc6 Bxd2+ 26.Rxd2 Nxc6±) 24...Qxg5+ 25.Kb1 Nc6! 26.Qxa8 Two rooks vs two knights! Qf5+ 27.Ka1 cxb2+ 28.Kxb2 Qe5+ 29.Kb1 Qf5+ 30.Ka1 Qe5+ 31.Kb1 ½-½ (31) Zylla, J (2265)-Suvorov, S (2288) ICCF email 2018 [Vigorito, D]]

[13.0-0?! exd5 14.Nxd5 Be6

A) 15.Nf4 Qxd1 16.Rxd1 Bf7 17.Ng5 Ne5 18.Nxf7 (18.Be3? Ü 5/660) 18...Nxf7 19.Bc4 Bd4+! 20.Kh1 (20.Kf1 Re5±) 20...Nd7 21.Ne6 (21.Bd5 Rab8± Δ ♘b6) 21...Nb6 22.Bb3 c4! 23.Nxd4 Rad8 24.Nf3 (24.Bf4 Re4±) 24...cxb3 25.Rxd8 Rxd8 26.Be3 bxa2±;

B) 15.Bc4 Ne5 16.Bg5 Nxf3+ 17.Qxf3 Qxg5 18.Rae1 Nc6 19.Rxe6 (I. Rogers - J. Van der Wiel, Wattignies 1976) Rf8 20.Nf4 Kh8± White has insufficient compensation for material deficit.]

13...Nc6 13...Bd7 is not played anymore. 13...Ld7 wird inzwischen seltener gespielt. 13...Bd7 is vanishing. 13...Ld7 scheint zu verschwinden.

[13...Bd7 has lost popularity (13...Nc6). verliert an Beliebtheit (13...Sc6). Ftacnik, Konikowski: 'or even moves like 13...♗f8 should be alright for Black: White has sufficient compensation but definitely not more.' 14.0-0 (14.Ng5 Nf6 15.0-0 Nc6 16.Nb5 h6 17.Nf3 Nd5 18.Qd3 Kh7 19.Qe4 Rf8 20.Bd2 a6 21.Nc3= 1-0 (32) Michaelsen, N (2430)-Nijboer, F (2605) Germany 1998)

A) 14...c4 15.Kh1 Qb6 16.Qe1 Ne3N (Predecessor: 16...Nc6 17.Qh4 Nge5 18.Ng5 h6 19.Nge4 h5 20.Bxh5 Rf8 21.Bf3 Nxf3 22.gxf3 Ne5 1-0 (31) Ferrara, E (2189)-Meza, A (2034) Tacuari 2018) 17.Bxe3 Qxe3 18.Bxc4 Qf4

19.Ne4 Nc6 20.Nfg5 Qe5 21.Qh4 h5 22.Nf7 Qd4 23.Rad1 1-0 (23) Legky,N (2350)-Koehler,G (2198) Assisi 2022;

B) 14...Bc6 15.Ng5 Ne5 16.Be3 Bellmann,Herbert: 'mit Chancen für beide Seiten.' Nbd7

B1) 17.Qe1 c4 (17...h6!? 18.Nge4 c4~~z~~; 17...Nf6 18.Qg3 Qxd6 19.Rad1 Qb8 20.Qh3 Qc7 21.Bf4 Nh5 22.Bg4 Qe7 23.Bxe6+ Kh8 24.Rde1 Rf8 25.Rxe5 Rxf4 26.Nf7+ Rxf7 27.Rxf7 Qd6~~7~~ 0-1 (30) Bromberger,S (2510)-Aroshidze,L (2537) Kalamaria 2009) 18.Qg3 h6 19.Nf3 Nxf3+ 20.Bxf3~~±~~ (20.gxf3? Vaisser,A (2497)-Lind,J (2148) Bucharest 2019);

B2) 17.Nb5 has been more common 17...h6 (17...Bh6 18.Qd2 Nb6 19.Nxh7 Nbc4 20.Bxh6 Nxd2 21.Nf6+ Kh8 22.Bxd2 Qb6 23.a4 c4+ 24.Kh1 Rf8 25.Bc3 Qe3 26.Nd4 Ftacnik,Konikowski: '=' Ftacnik, Konikowski: '1-0 (42) Moranda,W (2560)-Szelag,M (2501) Poland 2013' Rxf6 27.Rxf6 Bd5 28.Re1 Kh7 29.Bf3 Qg5 30.Bxd5 Qxf6 31.Nxe6 Qf2 32.Ng5+ Kh6 33.Nh3 Qxe1+ 34.Bxe1 Rd8 35.Bd2+ Kg7 36.Bc3 Kf6 37.Nf2 Kf5 38.g4+ Nxg4 39.Nxg4 Rxd6 40.Bf3 Rd3 41.Be2 Rd8 42.Ne3+ 1-0 (42) Moranda,W (2560)-Szelag,M (2501) Poland 2013) 18.Nh3 (18.Nxe6 Rxe6 19.Qb3 c4 20.Bxc4 Nxc4 21.Qxc4 Nf8 22.Rxf8+ Kxf8 23.Qxe6 Bxb5 24.Rc1 Qe8! Jones,B (2219)-Solf,F (2293) ICCF email 2012) 18...Ng4!/? 19.Bxg4 Bxb5 20.Be2 (20.Re1 Qf6 21.Nf2 Bc6 22.Nd3 b6 23.Rc1 Bf8 24.Rc3 Bg7 25.Rf1 Qh4 26.g3 Qd8 27.Nf4 ½-½, Sadler - Murin, match Canada - Slovaquie, ICCF 2010.) 20...Qb6 all draws in correspondence games (20...Bxe2 21.Qxe2[↑]) 21.Bxb5 Qxb5 22.Qc2 g5 23.Nf2

B2a) 23...Rf8 24.h4 gxh4 25.Qe4 Ne5 26.Qxh4 h5 27.b3 Qe8 28.Qg3 Qg6 29.Qxg6 Nxg6 30.Rad1 (30.Rae1 b6 31.Bg5 Ne5 32.Be7 Rf5 33.Re2 Kf7 34.Nh3 Bf6 35.Ng5+ Bxg5 36.Rxf5+ exf5 37.Rxe5 Bxe7) 30...b6 31.Ne4 Rxf1+ 32.Kxf1 Rd8 33.Ke2 Ne5 34.Bg5 Rd7 35.Rh1 Kf7 36.Rxh5 Kg6 37.Rh3 Nc6 38.g4 Nb4 39.a3 Nc6 40.a4 Bf8 41.Be3 Bg7 42.Bf4 Nd4+ 43.Kd2 Nc6;

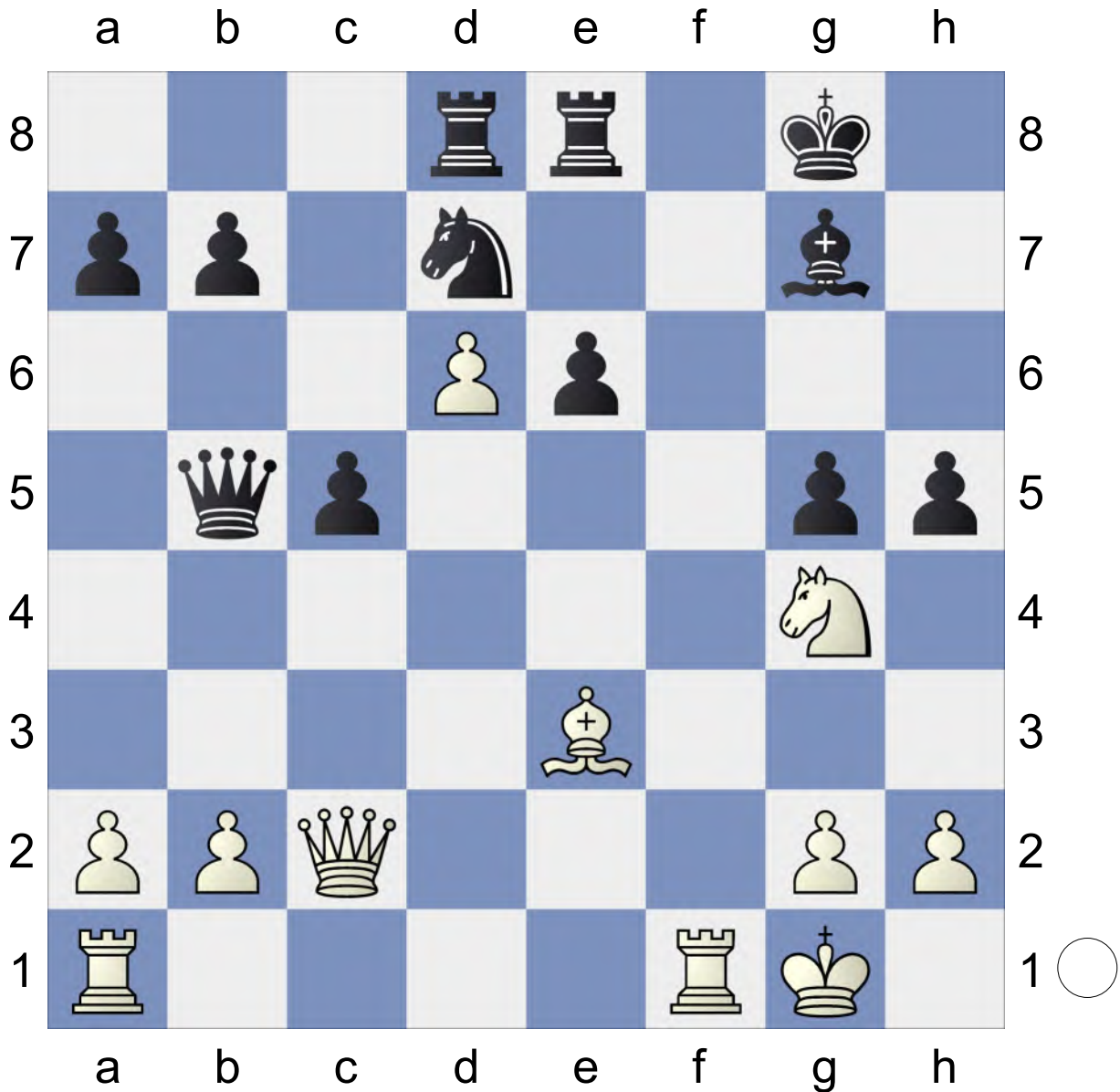
B2b) 23...Rad8 24.Ng4 h5

(Diagram)

B2b1) 25.a4!! Qb4 26.Nh6+ Bxh6 27.Qg6+ Bg7 28.Qf7+ Kh7

B2b11) 29.Qxh5+!/? Kg8 30.Bxg5 Qd4+ 31.Kh1 Ne5 32.Rad1 Nd3

B2b111) 33.Qf7+ Kh7 34.Bxd8 Rxd8 35.Rd2 Qe3 36.Qh5+ Kg8 37.Re2 Nf4 38.Qf7+ Kxf7 39.Rxe3 Rxd6 (39...Bh6 40.g3 Rxd6 41.gxf4 Rd4 42.Rfe1 Rd6 43.Re4 Rb6 44.R1e2 Bg7 45.Kg2~~±~~) 40.Rxf4+ Ke7 41.Ref3 Rd1+ 42.Rf1 Rxf1+ 43.Rxf1 Bxb2 44.Rb1 Bd4 45.g4 b6 46.Kg2 Bf6 47.Kf3 Kd6 48.Ke4 Bg5 49.Rd1+ Ke7 50.Rh1 Bh4 51.h3 Kf6 52.Rf1+ Ke7

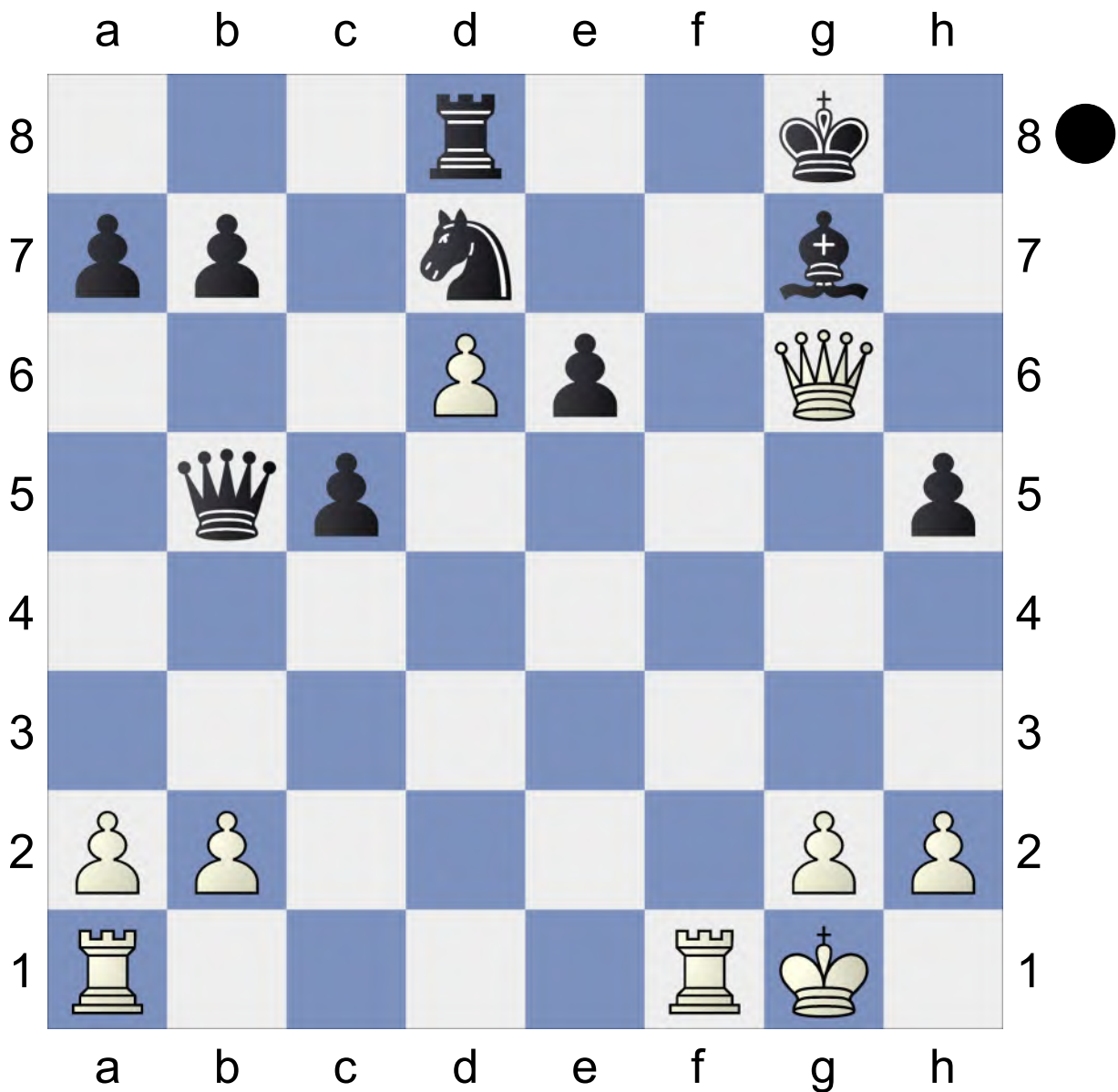


53.Rb1+;-

B2b112) 33.Bxd8 Rxd8 34.Qf7+ Kh7±;

B2b12) 29.Bxg5 Rf8 (29...Qd4+ 30.Kh1 Ne5 31.Qxh5+ Kg8 32.Rad1 Nd3 33.Bxd8 Rxd8 34.Qf7+ Kh8 35.Rd2 Qe3 36.Qh5+ Kg8 37.Re2 Nf4 38.Qf7+ Kxf7 39.Rxe3 Bh6 40.g3 Rxd6 41.gxf4 Kf6 42.Rh3 Bg7 43.Rg1 Rb6 44.Rh7 Bf8 45.Rd1 Rxb2 46.Rdd7 Kg6 47.Rxb7±) 30.Qxh5+ Kg8 31.Bxd8 Qd4+ 32.Kh1 Qxd6 33.Rad1 b6 34.Qg6 Ne5 35.Rxf8+ Qxf8 36.Qxe6+ Qf7 37.Qxf7+ Nxf7 38.b3 Bd4 39.Bc7 Nh6 40.h4 Ng4 41.Re1 Kf7 42.g3 Ne3 43.Bf4 Nc2 44.Rc1 Na1 45.Rb1 Nc2 46.h5 Be3 47.Bxe3 Nxe3 48.Kh2 Kf6 49.Re1 Ng4+ 50.Kh3 Kg5 51.Re7 Kxh5 52.Rf7 Ne3 53.Rxa7 Kg5 54.Re7 Nd1+;-

B2b2) 25.Nh6+? Bxh6 26.Bxg5 Bg7 27.Bxd8 Rxd8 28.Qg6



B2b21) 28...Qxb2 29.Kh1

B2b211) 29...Ne5 30.Qxe6+ Kh7 31.Rae1 Qc3 32.Qf5+ Kh6 33.d7 Qc4 34.Re4 Qa6 35.h4 Qg6 36.Rxe5 Bxe5 37.Qxe5 Rxd7 38.Qxc5 b6 39.Qc8 Qe6;

B2b212) 29...Nf8 30.Qf7+ Kh8 31.Rab1 Qe5 32.Rxb7 Qg5 33.Rxa7 (33.Qe7 Nh7 34.Qxe6 c4 35.Qxc4 Rxd6 36.Rb8+ Rd8 37.Qc7 Rf8 38.Qxa7 Qe5 39.Rbxf8+ Bxf8 40.Qf2 Kg7 41.Re1 Qc3 42.Qh4 Nf6 43.Qg5+ Kh7 44.Rc1) 33...h4 (33...Rxd6 34.Ra8 Qh6 35.h3 e5 36.Rf5 Rg6 37.a4 c4 38.Qxc4 Rf6 39.Qf1 Rxf5 40.Qxf5 e4 41.Qxe4 Qc1+ 42.Kh2 Qc5 43.g3 Qf2+ 44.Qg2 Qf5 45.h4 Bc3 46.Qe2 Kg7 47.Ra7+ Kh8 48.Ra6 Kg7 49.Qe7+ Kg8 50.Qg5+) 34.Qe7 Nh7 35.Qxe6 Rg8 36.d7 Bf6 37.Qh3 Bd8 38.Ra4 Rf8 39.Qc3+ Kg8 40.Rd1

Rf2 41.Qh3 Rd2!;

B2b213) 29...Nf8 30.Qf7+ Kh8 31.Rab1 Qe5 (31...Qd4 32.Qxh5+ Nh7 33.Rbd1 Qe5 34.Qf7 Qg5 35.d7 Bf6 36.Qxe6 Qe5 37.Qb3 Kg7 38.Qxb7 c4 39.Qa6 c3 40.Qc4 a6 41.Rd5 Qe7 42.Qg4+ Kh8 43.a4 c2 44.Qg6 Rxd7 45.Rxd7 Qxd7 46.Qxc2 Kg7 47.Qc4 Ng5 48.h4 Nh7 49.Qxa6 Bxh4 50.a5 Bd8 51.Qe2 Qd4 52.Qh5 Nf6) 32.Rxb7;

B2b22) 28...Qe2 29.Rae1 ½-½ (29) Guidoni,M (2202)-Merrheim,X (2115) AJEC 2012 Kommentierte Partien2024 [Guidoni,Mathias];

C) 14...Qb6 15.Bc4 Nc6 16.a4N (Vorgänger: 16.Na4 Qb4 17.b3 Nd4 18.Bd2 Qa3 19.Bc1 Qb4 20.Bd2 Qa3 21.Bc1 ½-½ (21) Ploehn,H (2091)-Dechant,G (2005) Bayern 2018) 16...Nge5 17.Nxe5 Nxe5 18.Be2 Rf8 19.Ra3 c4+ 20.Kh1 Bc6 21.Nb5 Bxb5 22.Be3 Qc6 23.axb5 Qxb5 24.Bd4 Qd5 25.Bc3 Rxf1+ 26.Qxf1 Rf8 27.Qe1 Nd3 0-1 (27) Garcia Ruiz Fuentes,A (2078)-Madhavan,S (1961) Daventry 2023]

[13...Rf8!? Rare, but logical, it's also the choice of Stockfish. 14.0-0 Nc6 Ftacnik,Konikowski: 'or 14...Qge5.' 15.Bg5 (15.Ne4 Bd7; 15.Kh1 b6 16.Ne4 Rf5 17.Bg5 Qd7 18.Qa4 h6 19.h3 Nge5 20.Nxe5 Nxe5 21.Bb5 Qf7 22.Be7 Bb7 23.Ng3 Rf2 24.Ne4 Rf5 25.Ng3= 1/2-1/2 D. Brunsteins - T. de Vassal, corr. 2009)

A) 15...Rxf3!? is also good, and rather pretty, 16.Bxf3 (16.Bxd8 Rxf1+ 17.Qxf1 Bd4+) 16...Qxg5 17.Bxg4 Bd7 18.Rc1 Nd4 19.Re1 Bh6 20.Ne4 Qxc1 21.Qxc1 Bxc1 22.Rxc1 Bc6 23.Nxc5 Rd8 24.Nxe6 1/2-1/2 (24) Jones, B (2187)-Bennborn,J (2296) ICCF email 2013;

B) 15...Bd4+ 16.Nxd4 (16.Kh1? Qxd6 0-1 (27) Gloria,E (2275) -Sutter,O (2245) Geneve 1993.) 16...Qxg5 (16...Rxf1+ 17.Qxf1 Qxg5 is also fine, 18.Nxc6 Qe3+ Trajko Nedev: '=' Trajko Nedev: '1/2-1/2 Komodo 4.0 - Zappa Mexico II, Internet 2012' 19.Kh1 Nf2+ 20.Kg1 Ne4+ 21.Kh1 Nf2+ Vigorito,D: 'amounts to the same.' 22.Kg1 Ne4+ 1/2-1/2 (22) Maitre,F (2242)-Maver,I ICCF email 2011) 17.Rxf8+ Kxf8

B1) 18.Bxg4 Nxd4 19.Qa4 Qxg4 20.Rf1+ Kg7 21.d7 Nf3+ (21...Bxd7 22.Qxd7+ Kh6 23.Qxb7 Rd8=) 22.Rxf3 Qxa4 23.Nxa4 (23.d8Q? Qd4+ 24.Qxd4+ cxd4+-) 23...Bxd7 24.Nxc5 level, as Bc8 25.Rd3 b6 26.Ne4 Ba6 27.Rd7+ Kh6 28.h4;

B2) 18.Qf1+ Kg7 (18...Kg8 19.Nxc6 Qe3+ 20.Kh1 Nf2+ amounts to the same.) 19.Nxc6 Qe3+ 20.Kh1 Nf2+ 21.Kg1 Nh3+ 22.Kh1 Nf2+ 23.Kg1 Nh3+ 24.Kh1 ½-½ (24) Potkin,V (2583)-Yuffa,D (2565) Sochi RUS 2020 [Vigorito,D]]

[13...Qb6

A) 14.Ng5 Ne5 15.0-0 Nbc6 16.Nge4 c4+N (16...Nd4 17.Na4 Qc6 18.Naxc5 b6 19.Qxd4 Nf3+ 20.Bxf3 Bxd4+ 21.Kh1 Qb5 22.Be3 Bg7 23.a4 Qxb2 24.d7 Bxd7 25.Nxd7 Red8 26.Rab1 Qa3 27.Nef6+ Kh8 28.Bxa8 Rxa8 29.Bd4 Qxa4 30.Rf4 Rd8 31.Be5 Qa5 32.Rbf1 Qd2 33.Ne8 Kg8

34.Rf8+ 1-0 (34) Bach,M (2340)-Watzke,B Dresden 1996) 17.Kh1 Bd7 18.Bg5 Rf8 (18...Qxb2?! 19.Rb1) 19.Nf6+ Bxf6 20.Bxf6 Qe3 21.Qe1 Nd4 22.Qh4 Nf5! 23.Qe4 Nd3↑ 24.Bxd3 cxd3 25.Qxb7 Rab8 26.Qc7 (26.Qxd7 Rxf6) 26...Rxb2 27.Nd1 (27.Rf3 Qb6 28.Qxd7 Rxf6 29.Qe8+→) 27...Qh6 28.Nxb2 (28.Qxd7 Ng3+! 29.Kg1 Ne2+! 30.Kf2?? Rxf6+) 28...Ng3+ 29.Kg1 Ne2+ 30.Kh1 Ng3+ 31.Kg1 Ne2+ 32.Kh1 Ng3+ 33.Kg1 Ne2+ ½-½ (33) Moranda,W (2572)-Szelag,M (2464) Katowice 2010 EXT 2016 [RR];

B) 14.0-0 c4+ 15.Kh1 Nf2+ 16.Rxf2 Qxf2 17.Ne4]

[13...Ne5 14.0-0 Nbc6 15.Ne4 Nxf3+ 16.Bxf3 Rf8= This position is very complicated, which favors better players. Spark 1.0 - Critter 1.2, Internet 2011]

14.0-0

[14.Ng5 Ftacnik,Konikowski: '?' Nge5 Ftacnik,Konikowski: '!' (14...Nh6 or; 14...Nf6 also makes sense.) 15.0-0 Nd4 16.Nge4

A) 16...h6 Ftacnik,Konikowski: '?' Ftacnik,Konikowski: 'For some reason I suddenly decided not to play the simple 15...d7, which was obviously better for Black.'

A1) 17.Nb5

A1a) 17...Nxb5? Reversing the moves in a strange and nonsensical way. Fortunately for me Black is still not worse. 18.Bxb5

A1a1) 18...Bd7? 19.Bxd7 Nxd7 (19...Qxd7? 20.Bxh6+-) 20.Qg4±;

A1a2) 18...Rf8 19.Rxf8+ Qxf8 20.Be3! Suddenly it appears very stupid to have taken on b5 earlier. (20.d7? Bxd7 21.Bxd7 Nxd7; 20.Nxc5?! b6 followed by ...b7 and ...d8.) 20...Bd7! (20...b6 21.Qe2 starts to be annoying for Black.) 21.Bxd7 Nxd7 22.Qa4 (22.Nxc5 Nxc5 23.Bxc5 Bxb2 24.Rb1 Qf5! is very drawish.; 22.Qb3?! Qf5! 23.Qxb7 Rb8) 22...Qf5 23.Qxd7 (23.Ng3 Qd3 24.Qxd7 Qxe3+ 25.Kh1 is also drawish.) 23...Qxe4 24.Bxc5 Rf8= 1/2 (38) Vaisser,A (2544)-Edouard,R (2662) Nancy 2013/ (24...b6?! which I initially considered to be a win, does not work: 25.Bf2 Rf8?! 26.Re1! Qxe1+ 27.Bxe1 Bd4+ 28.Bf2 Rxf2 29.Qxe6+ Kg7 30.Qc4± Oops!) 25.Bxa7 Bxb2 26.Rd1 Qg4 (26...Qe2!? 27.Qa4 Bc3 was my other idea but after the obvious 28.h3 Be1 29.Kh1 Rf1+ 30.Bg1 Qe3 31.Qe8+ the position is a draw: while I was afraid I could even forget something in such a strange position.) 27.Re1 Bd4+ 28.Bxd4 Qxd4+ 29.Kh1 Qe4 Now the position is a dead draw. 30.Rg1 Qd5 31.h3 Rf7 32.Qd8+ Kg7 33.Rc1 Qd2 34.Rc7 Qe1+ 35.Kh2 Qe5+ 36.Kh1 Qa1+ 37.Kh2 Qe5+ 38.Kh1 ½-½ (38) Vaisser,A (2544)-Edouard,R (2662) Nancy 2013 CBM 156 [Edouard,R];

A1b) 17...Rf8 Ftacnik,Konikowski: 'was still better for Black:' 18.Rxf8+ Qxf8 (D. Worobiej - M. Wozniak, Warsaw 2011) 19.Nxd4 (19.Be3 and now I do not have to take on b5 but can simply go 19...Bd7; 19.Nc7 Rb8 20.Be3 Nf7 21.Nb5 is probably the best try for White.) 19...cxd4 20.Kh1 Nf7;

A2) 17.Kh1 Nf5 18.g4 b6 19.gxf5 exf5 20.Ng3 Bb7+ 21.Kg1 Re6 $\bar{f}$;
B) 16...Nf7 17.Nb5 (Naum 4.6 - Equinox 2.01, Internet 2014) (17.Rxf7?! Kxf7 18.Bg5 Qd7 $\bar{f}$)

B1) 17...Rf8 18.Be3 $\square$ Nf5 (18...Qb6 19.Bxd4 cxd4 20.Bc4 is not that clear.; 18...Nxe2+ 19.Qxe2 b6 20.Rad1 Bb7 21.Rf4 is not that clear either.) 19.Bxc5 Bxb2 Black should simply be better, objectively.;

B2) 17...Bd7 18.Nc7 Nxd6 19.Nxe8 Bxe8 20.Bg5 Qb6 21.Nf6+ Kh8 22.Nxe8 Rxe8 $\bar{f}$;

B3) 17...b6 18.Nc7 Rf8 19.Nxa8 Bb7 Ftacnik,Konikowski: ' $\bar{f}$ ' Edouard,R: ' $\bar{f}$ ' 20.Nxb6 Qxb6 21.Ng3 Qxd6 $\bar{f}$ Black has more than adequate compensation for material deficit. White has to be very careful to avoid the numerous pitfalls ahead.]

[14.Bg5 Qb6 15.Na4 Qb4+ 16.Bd2 Qe4 17.Nc3 Bxc3 18.bxc3 Rf8 19.0-0 Ne3 20.Bxe3 Qxe3+ 21.Kh1 Bd7 $\bar{f}$ White has difficulties reaching full equality. Komodo 1142 - Stockfish 191113, Internet 2013]

14...Nd4 15.Ne4 b6 16.Bg5

[16.Nxd4 Bxd4+ 17.Kh1 Nxh2 18.Bg5 Nxf1N (Vorgänger: 18...Qd7 19.Kxh2 Bb7 20.Qxd4 cxd4 21.Nf6+ Kg7 22.Nxd7 Bc8 23.Ne5 1-0 (23) Miljkovic,M (2482)-Min,R (1659) Chess.com INT 2020) 19.Bxd8 Ne3 20.Qa4 Rxd8 21.Bf3 Bb7 22.Re1 Nf5 23.d7 a5 24.Nf6+ Bxf6 25.Bxb7 Ra7 26.Qc6 Nd4 27.Qxb6 Rxb7 28.Qxb7 Kf7 29.Qc7 Nf5 30.Rd1 Bd4 31.Qxd8 Ng3+ 32.Kh2 Ne2 33.Qe8+ Kg7 34.d8Q Be5+ 35.g3 Nxc3 36.Qf8# 1-0 (36) Czerw,D (2373)-Szente Varga,F (2075) Chess.com INT 2022]

16...Qd7 17.Nxd4 Bxd4+ 18.Qxd4N

[Vorgänger: 18.Kh1 Bb7 19.Bd3 Bxe4 20.Bxe4 Nf2+ 21.Rxf2 Bxf2 22.Bxa8 Rxa8 23.Be7 Bd4 24.Qf3 1-0 (30) Kleiser,G (2292)-Boehmer,E (2140) Graz 2009]

18...cxd4 19.Bxg4 Qb5 20.a4N

[Vorgänger: 20.Nf6+ Kf7 21.Rac1 Bd7 22.Rc7 Red8 23.Nxd7+ Kg7 24.Nf6+ Kf8 25.Nxh7+ Ke8 26.Rf8# 1-0 Molenda,M (2381)-Szente Varga,F (2075) Titled Tuesday intern op 15th Nov Late blitz 2022 (5)]

20...Qxf1+ 21.Rxf1 Rf8 22.Rxf8+ Kxf8 23.Be7+ Kf7 24.Ng5+ Ke8 25.Nxe6 Bxe6 26.Bxe6 b5 27.Bg5 d3 28.Kf2 bxa4 29.d7+ 1-0 (29) Preobrazhensky,A (1822)-Suslov,D (2221) St Petersburg 2023

⁹⁴ Dauthuis,Fernand: 'Possible aussi' **9.Be2** Dauthuis,Fernand: 'plus positionnel, maintenant la colonne d ouverte sur le pion arriéré d6.' 9...Nc6 10.0-0 b6 11.Kh1 Bb7 J. Piket - J. Nunn, Wijk aan Zee 1992

⁹⁵ **9...Nh5!?** ChessPublishing.com: 'hitting f4,' 10.g3 Nc6 ChessPublishing.com: 'Turov, M-Hillarp Persson,T/Stockholm SWE 2015.' 11.0-0 b6

[11...Nd4 is most played

A) 12.Ng5 Featuring a typical threat Bf6? 13.Nxh7! Kxh7 14.e5 Kg7 15.exf6+

Nxf6 with a small advantage for White. The black king is slightly weak and White has the bishop pair. Black's compensation is the strong centre and the d4 outpost. The position is quite complex though, and White made several mistakes. 16.Ne2 (16.Nb5 is Houdini's preference for liquidating the strong Black knight.) 16...Nf5! 17.b3 d5 18.Bxf5? gxf5 19.cxd5 exd5 20.b4 b6! 21.bxc5 bxc5 22.Qc2 Qe7 23.g4 Nxc4 24.Ng3 d4 25.h3 Nh6 26.Qf2 Bb7 (26...Rg8-+) 27.Ba3 Rfd8? (27...Kh7-+) 28.Rfe1 Qd6? (28...Qh4 $\bar{f}$) 29.Re5 Rg8 30.Bxc5 Qc6 31.Kh2 1-0 Moskalenko, V (2565) -Fernandez Muixi, F (2117)/ Torredembarra 2010;

B) 12.Nxd4 cxd4 13.Nb5 a6 14.Na3 b6 15.Nc2 Bb7 16.Bd2 e5 (16...a5 With the same idea of ...e5 would have been better.) 17.fxe5 a5? (17...dxe5 I guess Black feared 18.Nb4 Rxf1+ 19.Qxf1 Qd6 20.Nd5 Rf8 21.Qe2 The knight on d5 is very strong, plus Black can't afford to exchange it.) 18.Rxf8+? (18.g4+-) 18...Qxf8 19.Qg4 Bc8 20.e6 Qe8 21.Qf3 Bxe6 22.Qf2 Rc8 23.b3 Nf6 24.Bf4 Ng4 25.Qd2 Ne5 26.Rf1 Bh3 27.Rf2 Ng4 28.Rf3 Qc6! 29.Bf1 Bxf1 30.Rxf1 Qxe4 $\bar{f}$ And Black had some winning chances. 31.Re1 Qf5 32.Nxd4 Qc5 33.Rd1 g5 34.Be3 Re8 35.Bf2 Rf8 36.Be3 d5 37.Nc2 Nxe3 38.Qxe3 dxc4 39.Qxc5 bxc5 40.bxc4 Rf3 41.Kg2 Rc3 42.Rd2 g4 43.Re2 Rxc4 with an extra pawn, Wirig, A (2488)-Nataf, I (2541)/ Saint Quentin 2014, 1/2-1/2 (68).]

12.f5

[12.Be3 Bb7 13.Ng5 Qe7 Sandu, Mihaela: 'Δ' (13...Bxc3? It can't be too healthy to exchange the dark square bishop here. Soon e5 or f5 will come and the bishops will be paramount. 14.bxc3 Ng7 15.Qg4 h6 16.Nf3 Qe8?! 17.Qh4 h5 18.Qg5 Ne7 19.Qh6 Qc6 20.Ng5 winning, Moskalenko, V (2471) -Vidarte Morales, A (2424)/ Castellar 1999, 1-0 (43).) 14.e5 Sandu, Mihaela: '?' Sandu, Mihaela: 'Doesn't work because of' (14.Qg4 Nd4 15.e5 Nf5 $\bar{f}$) 14...dxe5 15.Nxh7 Rfd8 Sandu, Mihaela: '-+!']

12...exf5 13.exf5 gxf5 14.Nd5 0-1 Turov,M (2591)-Hillarp Persson,T (2544)/ Stockholm SWE 2015/The Week in Chess 1052 (31) 14...Qd7 15.Nh4

[15.Ng5!? Bd4+ 16.Be3 Ng7 17.Bxd4 Nxd4 18.Re1 Nc6 19.Bc2 Bb7 20.Qd2 Rae8 ∞]

15...Bd4+ 16.Be3 Ng7 17.g4? White is trying too hard to prove that f5 is weak, forgetting about his own king's safety.

[17.Qe2 Qf7 18.Nf3 Exchanging the active bishop would have underlined the f5 weakness.]

17...f4!

[17...fxg4?? 18.Bxh7+-]

18.Bxd4 Nxd4 19.Be4

[19.Nxf4 Bb7 $\bar{f}$ The white king is quite weak.]

19...Bb7 20.Kh1 Rae8 21.Qd3 Nge6 22.Bg2 Kh8 23.Rae1 f3 24.Nxf3 Bxd5 25.cxd5 Nf4 26.Rxe8 Qxe8 27.Qa6 Nxc2 28.Nxd4 Ne3 29.Rxf8+ Qxf8 30.Nf5 Nxf5 31.Qf1?? Ng3+ 0-1 (31) Turov,M (2591)-Hillarp Persson,T (2544) Stockholm

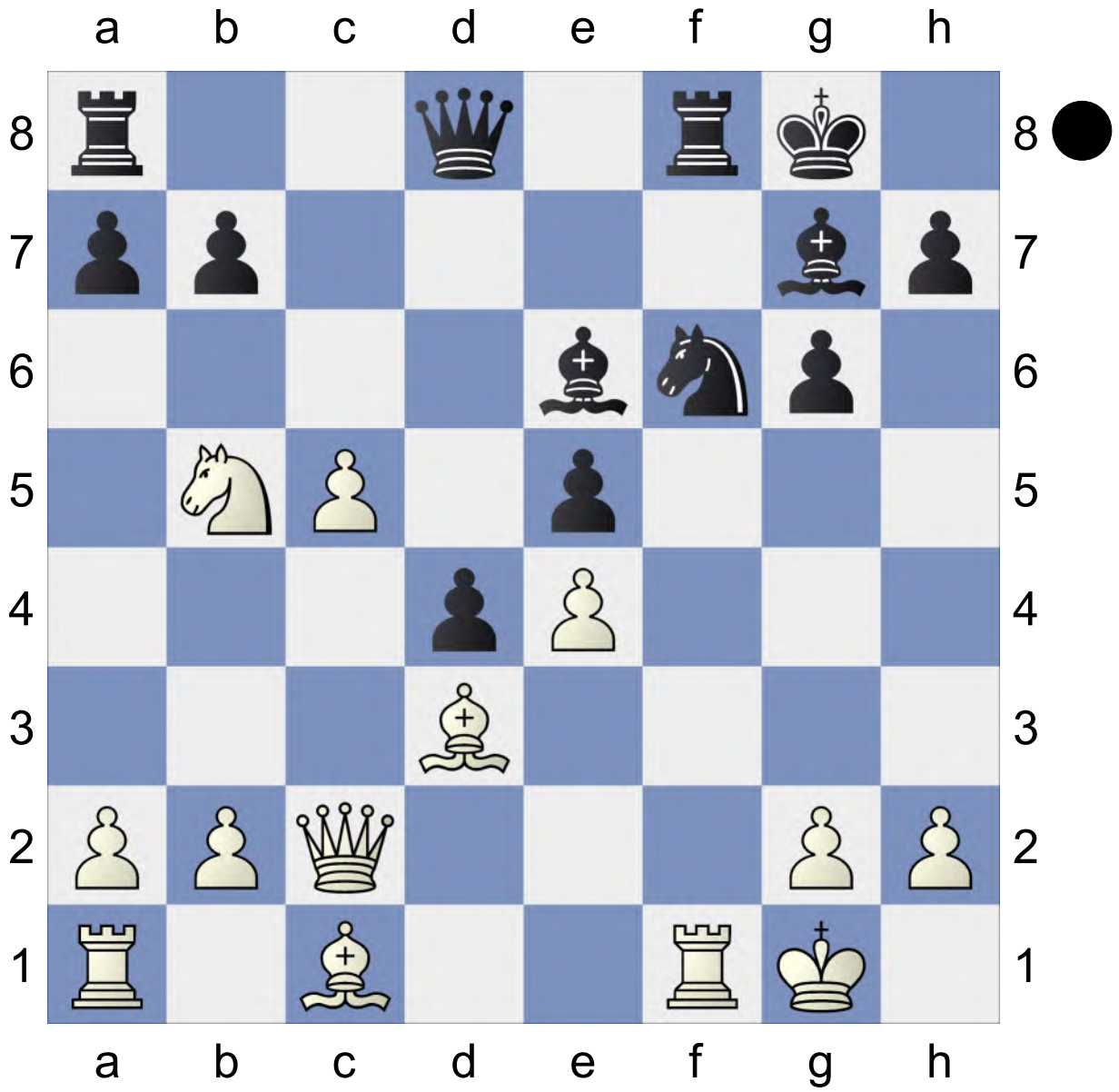
SWE 2015 [Sandu, Mihaela]

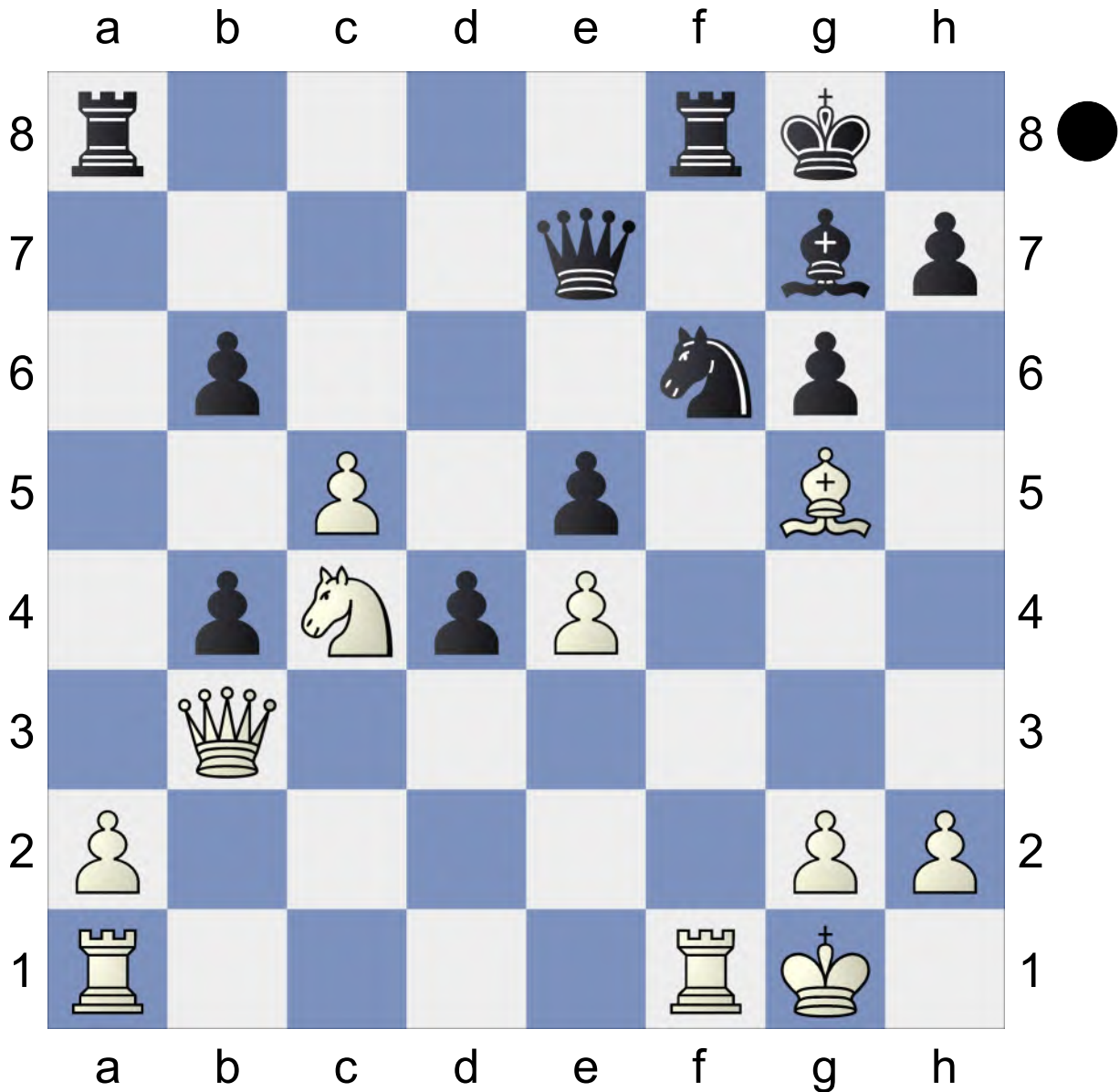
9...b6 avec l'idée Qb7 et d6-d5, les blancs ont 10.e5!

- ⁹⁶ Vigorito, D: 'We have also seen' Vigorito, D: 'I prefer this direct move, but Black has done pretty well with' **10...a6** Sandu, Mihaela: 'followed by ...b6 and ...Ra7 was played by Larsen against Hjartason- see the archives' Vigorito, D: 'when Flear suggests a modest approach with' Vigorito, D: 'which I believe Flear himself indicated as best in the aforementioned book.' 11.a4 Vigorito, D: 'is covered in the old game Hjartarson, J-Larsen, B Reykjavik 1986 in the archives.' [Vigorito, D: 'Thus Glenn suggests a modest approach with' 11.Bd2 with chances for both sides. Instead:]
[Vigorito, D: 'Flear also mentions' 11.Ng5 e5 12.f5 h6 13.Nh3 gxf5 14.exf5 b5 15.Ne4 d5 16.cxd5 Qxd5 17.Nhf2 Ra7 (17...c4! 18.Nxf6+ Rxf6 19.Be4 Qxd1 20.Nxd1 Ra7! which seems okay for Black - Flear) 18.Qf3 with pressure, V. Moskalenko-C.Matamoros, Motril 2005.]
11...b6 12.Ng5 Ra7! Nice. Vigorito, D: 'is Hjartarson, J-Larsen, B Reykjavik 1986 in the archives' 13.Ra3 Re7!= Larsen is ready for any advance by White and prepares counterplay with ...Nd4, Hjartarson, J-Larsen,B/Reykjavik 1986.
10...Nh5 transposes to the game.
- ⁹⁷ Vigorito, D: 'There is also the direct' **11.Nxd4** is generally favoured now by experts such as Moskalenko and Flear. 11...cxd4 12.Nb5 ChessPublishing.com: 'Flear,G-Zhigalko,A/Lille FRA 2012.' Vigorito, D: '-see Flear, G (2459)-Zhigalko, A (2590) Lille 2012.' 12...e5 Sandu, Mihaela: 'was seen in Flear-Zhigalko (Vigorito)'
[After 12...a6 13.Nxd4! (13.Nxd6 Qxd6 14.e5 Qc7 15.exf6 Bxf6 16.Bd2 Bd7 17.b4 Rae8 18.Qc2 e5 was ok for Black and led to a draw soon in Cheng, B (2344)-Ly, M (2402) Parramatta 2012) 13...Qb6 14.Be3 Ng4 15.Qxg4 Bxd4 16.Bf2 Qxb2 17.Rad1 and White's development lead gave him a strong initiative in the game G. Flear-F.Guilleux, Dieppe 2009.]
13.fxe5 dxe5 14.c5 Be6 see Flear,G-Zhigalko,A in the PGN Archive. 15.Bg5 [Flear varies from his own recommendation. We cannot read too much into this however - it is difficult to remember everything even when you write about it. I would know! Instead 15.Qc2 Dauthuis,Fernand: '

(Diagram)

A) 15...a6?! 16.Nd6 Qe7 17.Bg5 b6 (Risqué. Peut-être valait-il mieux attendre à l'aile dame et essayer de se dégager à l'aile roi par 17...h6 18.Bh4 Kh7) 18.b4! a5 19.Bc4?! Un coup précipité qui dilapide une partie de l'avantage. ($\triangleleft$ 19.a3!) 19...axb4 20.Qb3 Bxc4 21.Nxc4 ∞ Les noirs ont réussi à brouiller les cartes et la position est maintenant peu claire.

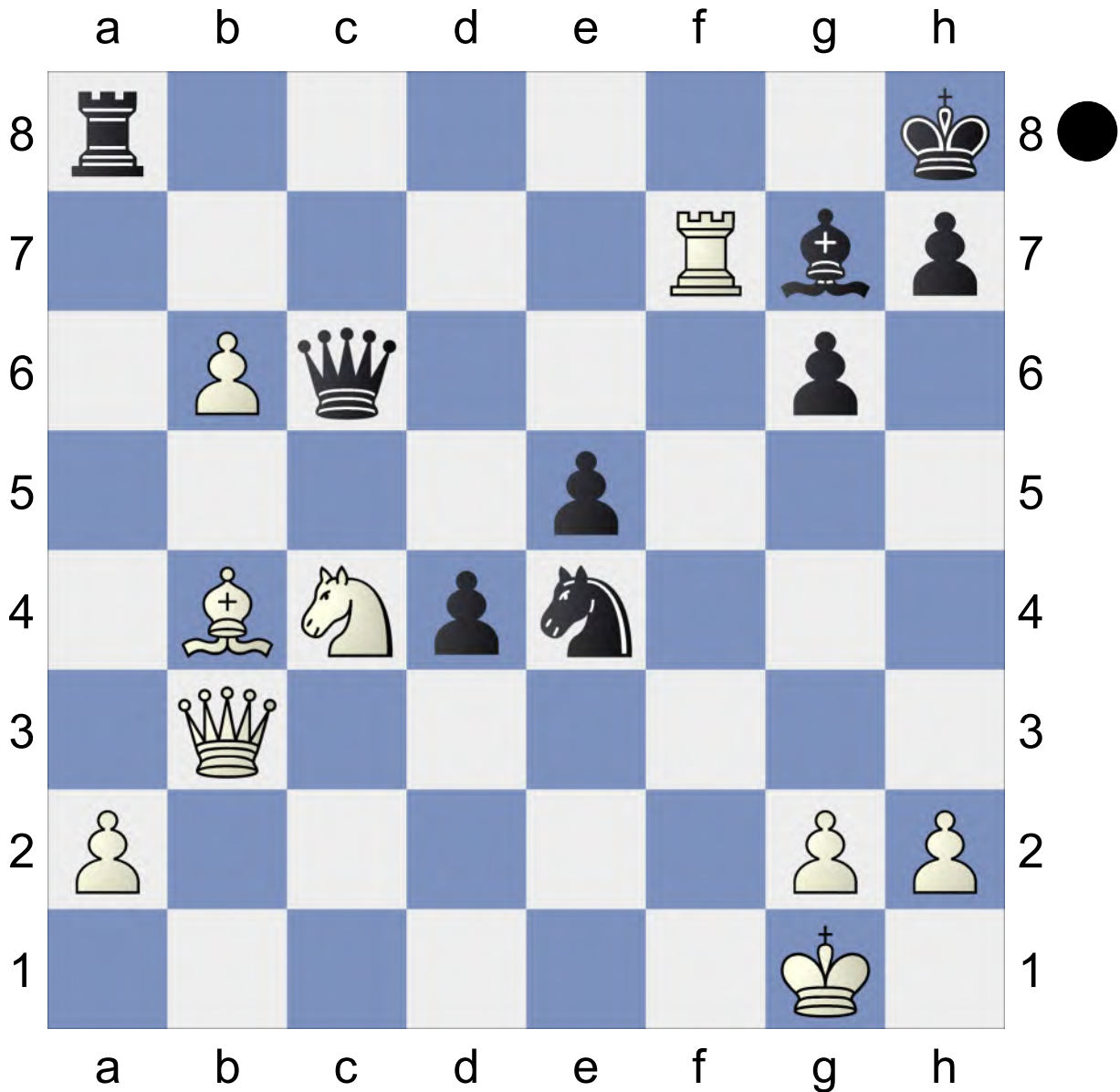




Kh8?! (L'autre façon de parer l'échec à la découverte était plus efficace : 21...Qe6! et les blancs auraient eu bien du mal à éviter les échanges et un aplanissement de toutes les tensions, par exemple 22.Bxf6 Bxf6 23.Nxb6 Qxb3 24.axb3 Rxa1 25.Rxa1 Be7 après quoi leur pion passé serait plutôt faible et le pion d4 soutenu des noirs plutôt solide.) 22.cxb6 Qc5? Une faute que les blancs vont exploiter au mieux. 23.Bd2! Les blancs menacent de gagner la qualité. Nxe4 24.Bxb4 Rxf1+ 25.Rxf1 Qc6 26.Rf7 Les noirs ont sauvé la qualité mais l'installation de la tour blanche sur la septième rangée force la décision.

(Diagram)

h6 27.h4! Rb8 28.Rc7 1-0 (28) Garnica,H (1710)-Theveniaud,C AJEC 2011



Kommentierte Partien2024 [Dauthuis,Fernand];

B) Dans le même esprit, on a essayé ici 15...Qd7 qui semble aussi imprécis car les blancs poursuivent de même par 16.Nd6! obtenant un net avantage après b6 17.b4 a5 18.Nc4 bxc5 19.Nb6 Qc6 20.Qxc5 Qxc5 21.bxc5 Ra7 22.Bd2±, G. Flear - Lejarre, Saint Afrique 2010 (1-0, 40);

C) Il est acquis que le cavalier blanc est gênant, mais en d6 il le sera beaucoup plus ! Mieux valait donc contrôler d'abord la case d6 en jouant par exemple 15...Ne8!?;

D) 15...Qe7 16.Bg5 h6 17.Bxf6 Bxf6 18.Bc4 Bxc4 19.Qxc4+ Kg7 20.Nd6 was his recommendation. White has a queenside pawn majority and his knight looks good, but Black may undermine it with ...b6 and he has a protected passed pawn himself. After Bg5 21.g3 Be3+ 22.Kg2 d3 23.b4 d2 24.Qe2 Bd4 was V. Moskalenko-J.Campos Moreno, Ca'n Picafort 2005. Here

Moskalenko suggests 25.Rab1!? b6 26.Qxd2 but as I indicated in my own book, *Attacking Chess: The King's Indian Volume 2*, Rab8! looks fine for Black (not 26...bxc5? 27.bxc5+- when White threatens to invade on b7 or f7.)]

[15.Qe2 Qd7 16.Bg5 Kh8 17.b4 a5 18.a3 axb4 19.axb4 Rxa1 20.Rxa1 Nh5 21.Nd6 Nf4 22.Bxf4 exf4 23.Ra7 f3 24.gxf3 Be5 25.Qf2 Qd8 26.h4 Qf6 27.Nxb7 Bg4 28.Nd6 Bxf3 29.Rf7 Rxf7 30.Nxf7+ Qxf7 31.Be2 d3 32.Bxf3 Qc4 33.Kg2 Qxb4 34.c6 Qc4 35.Qb6 Qc2+ 36.Kf1 Qc1+ 37.Kg2 Qc2+ ½-½, G. Flear - Libiszewski, San Sebastian 2011 (½-½, 37).]

15...b6 A natural move which is a novelty.

[15...a6 16.Nd6 Qc7 17.b4 b6 18.Qc2 bxc5 19.Qxc5 Qd7 20.Nc4!? Rac8 21.Nb6 Rxc5 22.Nxd7 Nxd7 23.bxc5 Nxc5 24.Rxf8+ Bxf8 25.Bc2 was Zhaoqin Peng-A.Salazar, Azov 1990.]

[15...Qd7 16.Nd6 (16.b4? Nxe4! was D.Reinderman-F.Nijboer, Haarlem 2009 White managed to draw somehow.) 16...Qc6 (16...b6) 17.b4 h6 18.Bd2 Nh5 19.Qe2 Rxf1+ 20.Rxf1 Rf8 21.Rxf8+ Bxf8 22.Bc4± Ortega Serra, M (2107)-Kostelac Montesdeoca, J (1847) Llinars del Valles 2009]

16.b4 bxc5

[Black could also wait on this and play 16...h6]

17.bxc5 Rc8

[And here 17...a6 18.Nd6 Qc7 19.Qc2 Nd7! 20.Rfc1 (instead 20.Rac1 Rxf1+ is distracting; while 20.Rxf8+ would be met with the useful Bxf8!) is probably about level after 20...Kh8]

18.Qa4

[White puts his money on the a-pawn. 18.Qc2 was also possible.]

18...Rxc5 19.Qxa7 Rc6 20.Rac1 Rxc1 21.Rxc1 h6 22.Bh4 Qa8??

[A remarkable blunder. 22...g5 23.Be1 (23.Bg3 Nh5±) 23...Qa8 was the way to go if Black wanted to play this way.]

23.Qxa8 Rxa8 24.Bxf6! Bxf6 25.Rc6 Rxa2

[Black is just losing a piece. If 25...Kf7 26.Rxe6! anyway.]

26.Rxe6 Bg5

[Black looks for counterplay, but the White e-pawn will decide. 26...Kg7 27.Bc4 Rc2 28.Nd6+- is easy enough.]

27.Rxe5 Be3+ 28.Kf1 Kg7 29.Rd5 Rf2+ 30.Ke1 Rxg2 31.e5 h5 32.Rd7+ Kh6 33.e6 Bg5 34.Nd6 Bh4+ 35.Kf1 Rd2 36.Nf7+ Kg7 37.Ne5+ Be7 38.Rxe7+ Kf6 39.Bc4 Kxe5

[39...Kxe7 40.Nxg6+ Ke8 41.Bb5+ Kd8 42.e7+]

40.Rf7 1-0 (40) Flear,G (2459)-Zhigalko,A (2590) Lille FRA 2012 [Vigorito, D]

11.Bd2!? Nh5!? Flear,G-Jones,G/ Hastings ENG 2012.

[11...a6 12.Qe1 (M. Turov - F. Nijboer, Kusadasi 2006) Nxf3+ 13.Rxf3 Bd7= The chances are roughly equal, though better players should feel more comfortable.]

[Vigorito, D: 'In my own book *Attacking Chess: The King's Indian Volume 1* (also from Everyman) I mention a similar idea' 11...Bd7 12.Nxd4 (12.Qe1 Nh5!?

- 13.Nxd4 cxd4 14.Ne2 e5 15.b4 exf4 16.Nxf4 Nxf4 17.Bxf4 Be5 18.Qg3 Qe7 and Black had no problems at all in G.Estevez Morales-P.Ostojic, Kecskemet 1977. Gawain's move is even more to the point.) 12...cxd4 13.Nb5 Bc6 14.Qe2 (R. Ponomarev - Y. Vovk, Kiev 2012) e5 15.fxe5 dxe5 16.Bb4 Re8]
- 12.Ng5 The f4-pawn is attacked so there is not anything that looks better. 12...e5 [This looks like a decent novelty. The position had been reached before in a correspondence game, which went 12...h6 13.Nh3 (13.Nf3? Nxf4) 13...e5 14.f5 Nf6 15.Qe1 gxf5 16.exf5 a6 17.Qg3 e4? (17...Kh8) 18.Bxh6 Nh5 19.Qg6 Rf6 20.Qg5 exd3 21.Bxg7 Nxg7 22.Nd5± Mendieta Aibar, P (1984)-Pott, B (1928) corr 2008]
- 13.fxe5?! After this Black will not have any problems. [13.f5!? is more consistent, but Black looks fine: Nf4!? (13...h6?! 14.fxg6 Rxf1+ 15.Bxf1) 14.Bxf4 exf4 15.Qg4 h6 16.Nf3 (16.Ne6?! Nxe6 17.fxe6 Qe8! 18.Rxf4 Rxf4 19.Qxf4 Qxe6±) 16...gxf5 17.exf5 Bxf5 18.Bxf5 Nxf5 (18...Rxf5?? 19.Nxd4 and ...Bxd4+ is illegal) 19.Qxf4 is pretty level.]
- 13...dxe5 [This is fine, but 13...Bxe5!? is more dynamic and look at least ok for Black.]
- 14.Rxf8+ [14.Nd5=]
- 14...Qxf8 Now the pawn structure is symmetrical and Black enjoys a slight initiative because of the possibility of ...Nf4. 15.Qf1 Bg4 [The immediate 15...Nf4 may look aggressive, but White can even play 16.g3 Nxd3 17.Qxd3 intending Rf1, Nd5. With the text move Black makes sure that he does not fall behind in development.]
- 16.Nd5 [Probably White did not like 16.Qxf8+ Rxf8 17.Nd5 Nf4 when Black has some initiative.]
- 16...Nf4 17.h3 Bd7 [This may have been a good time for 17...Nxd3!?
- A)** 18.Qxf8+? Rxf8 19.hxg4 Nxb2;
- B)** 18.Qxd3? Be2! 19.Qc3 (19.Qe3 Bxc4) 19...h6!;
- C)** 18.hxg4 Nxb2 when White needs to find the clever 19.Qb1 (19.Rb1 Qxf1+ 20.Kxf1? Rf8+ 21.Kg1 Nxc4) 19...Nxc4 20.Qxb7! with counterplay. If Nxd2? (20...Rd8) 21.Ne7+ Kh8 22.Qxa8! Qxa8? 23.Nf7#]
- 18.Bc3 h6 19.Bxd4! White is pretty safe after the exchanges that follow. 19...cxd4 20.Nxf4 Qxf4 21.Qxf4 exf4 22.Nf3 g5 The bishop pair does not mean much here. 23.Re1 Be6 24.b3 Rd8 25.Kf1 Bf8 26.e5! White gains some room for his pieces. Neither side can undertake much without taking big risks. 26...b6 27.Rd1 a5 28.Be2 Bc5 29.Bd3 Kf7 30.Ke2 Ke7 31.Be4 Bf7 32.Bf5 Bh5 33.Kd3 Bb4 34.Rf1 Bc3 35.Rf2 Rf8 36.Be4 Rd8 37.Bf5 Rf8 ½-½ (37) Flear,G (2481)-Jones,G (2644) Hastings ENG 2012 [Vigorito, D]
- 11.Ne2**

⁹⁸ **11...h6** 12.Nf3!

⁹⁹ **12.Nb5?!** h6 13.Nxd4 cxd4 14.fxe5 dxe5 15.Nf3 Nh5 $\bar{f}$ Black has the initiative. Rybka 3 Dynamic - Rybka 3, Internet 2009

¹⁰⁰ **12...Qe8** 13.g4N

[13.Qe1]

13...h6 14.Nh3 Bd7 15.Nf2 Bc6 16.Nd5 gxf5

[16...Nxd5 17.cxd5 Bd7 ∞]

17.gxf5 Bxd5 18.cxd5 Qh5 19.Qxh5

[19.Be3 Qxd1 20.Raxd1 Kf7 21.Kh1 Rac8 ∞]

19...Nxh5 20.Ng4?! Diagram

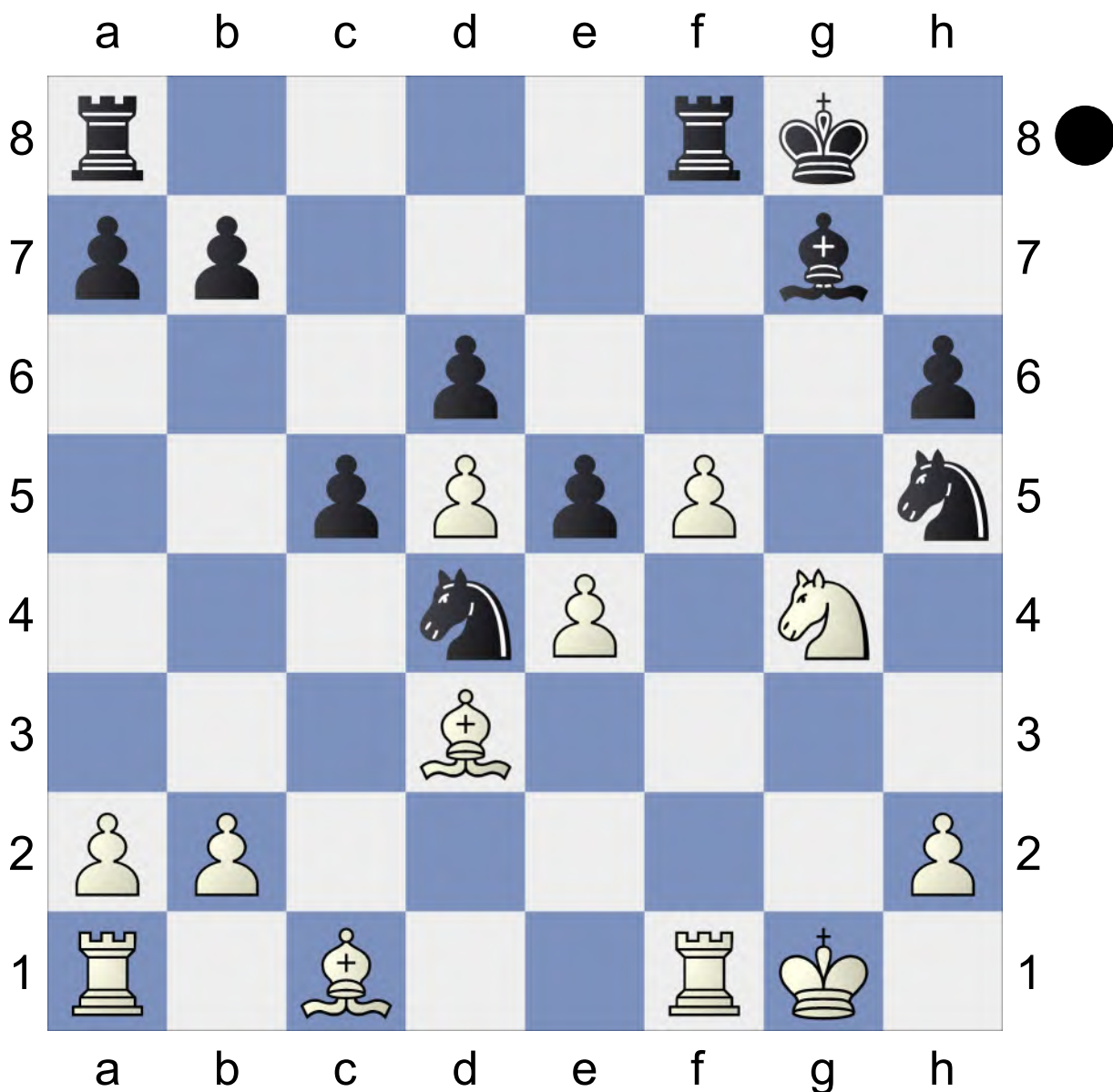
[20.Kh1 Nf4 21.Rg1 Kf7 $\bar{f}$]

(Diagram)

20...Nf4! 21.Bxf4 exf4 22.Rxf4 h5 23.Ne3

[23.Nf2 Be5 $\bar{f}$]

23...Bh6 24.Ng2 Bxf4 25.Nxf4 Kf7 $\bar{f}$ Ortega Serra,M (2295)-Sama Salinas,H (2296)
Espana 144/(195) 2020 [Arsovic,Goran]



13.Nh3

[13.fxg6 hxg5 14.Bxg5 is not sound. Bg4 15.Bxf6 Qd7! is one good response.]

[13.Nf3N is a half-hearted engine suggestion. It may be playable, but it does not inspire. gxf5 14.exf5 Bxf5! (even better than 14...Nxf5) 15.Nxd4 (15.Bxf5 Nxf5 16.Nxe5 dxe5 17.Qxd8 Raxd8 18.Rxf5 b6= The position is objectively equal, although a touch more comfortable for Black. A. Molina Camacho - M. Catarineu Rabell, corr. 2012) 15...Bxd3 16.Ne6 Qe7+]

13...gxf5 14.exf5 Qe8!? Black is spoiled for choice here. This move is rare, but Stockfish 12 recommends it.

[In my KID book I give 14...e4!? which was also recommended by Bologan.]

[14...b5!? Trajko Nedev: '!' Trajko Nedev: '(L. Christiansen - G. Kasparov, Moscow 1982)' GM Boris Chatalbashev: '!'

A) 15.Nxb5 GM Boris Chatalbashev: 'Δ!' e4 (15...Nxb5 16.cxb5 d5∞) 16.Bc2

(16.Be2 Nxf5=) 16...Nxb5 17.cxb5 d5= Black has sufficient compensation for material deficit. The position is objectively equal, but precise play is required from both sides.;

B) 15.Be3?! GM Boris Chatalbashev: '?' 15...bxc4 16.Bxc4+ Kh8 GM Boris Chatalbashev: 'Δ 17.d5, X Pf5' 17.Bxd4 cxd4 18.Nd5 GM Boris Chatalbashev: '♣ Ba6!♣ was seen in the classic game Christiansen,L (2585)-Kasparov,G (2675) Moscow 1982 Vigorito, D: '!' GM Boris Chatalbashev: '!' 19.Nxf6!? Bxc4 20.Nh5 Bxf1 21.Qg4 Qd7 22.Rxf1 d3 (22...Rac8♣) 23.Qf3 (White had better chances to hold after 23.Nf2 d2 24.Ne4 Rxf5 25.Rxf5 d1Q+ 26.Qxd1 Qxf5 27.Nxd6 Qg6 28.Nxg7 Kxg7 29.h3 according to Kasparov) 23...d2 24.g4 (24.f6 Bxf6! 25.Nxf6 Qg7) 24...Rac8 GM Boris Chatalbashev: '!' 25.Qd3 Qa4! 26.Nf2 Qd4! Black won the ending in L.Christiansen-G.Kasparov, Moscow Interzonal 1982. GM Boris Chatalbashev: '-+!' GM Boris Chatalbashev: '0-1 (26) Christiansen,L (2575)-Kasparov,G (2675) Moscow 1982']

[14...a6 (Philou 3.60 - Ufim 8.02, Internet 2011) 15.Nf2 Bxf5 16.Bxf5 Nxf5 17.Ng4 Nxg4 18.Qxg4 Qh4! 19.Qxh4 Nxh4= The position is objectively equal, although a touch more comfortable for Black.]

15.Nf2 This could be the best try, bringing the offside knight back into the fray and controlling e4.

[15.g4 Niklasson,C (2385)-Boersma,P (2350) Ramsgate 1979 e4♣ is obvious enough. 16.Re1? Nf3+]

[15.Qe1 Montilla Reyes,J (2050) -Zawadzka,J (2377) Istanbul 2012 e4! anyway 16.Nxe4 Nxe4 17.Bxe4 Bxf5♣ White has his pawn back but Black is much better developed.]

15...Bxf5 A pawn is a pawn! 16.Bxf5 Nxf5 17.Nfe4 Nxe4

[This is not bad, but both 17...Qe6♣]

[and 17...Qg6♣ look even stronger.]

18.Qd5+ Kh7 19.Qxe4?!

[Better was 19.Nxe4 Qg6 20.Bd2 with some compensation on the light squares.]

19...Qg6 20.Be3?!

[20.Bd2]

20...Nd4

[20...Nxe3! 21.Qxe3 e4♣ frees the long diagonal, 22.Kh1 Rae8 23.Rxf8 Rxf8 and the e4-pawn is immune: 24.Qxe4? (24.Nxe4? b5! 25.cxb5 Re8 26.Re1 Re5 and ...d5.) 24...Bxc3 25.Qxg6+ Kxg6 26.bxc3 Rf4 27.Rd1 Kf5! 28.Kg1 Ke6 and ...Rxc4.]

21.Bxd4?

[21.Bd2]

21...exd4

[21...cxd4 22.Qxg6+ Kxg6 is also crushing.]

22.Qxg6+ Kxg6 23.Nb5

[23.Nd5]

23...d3!-+ 24.Rfd1 Bxb2

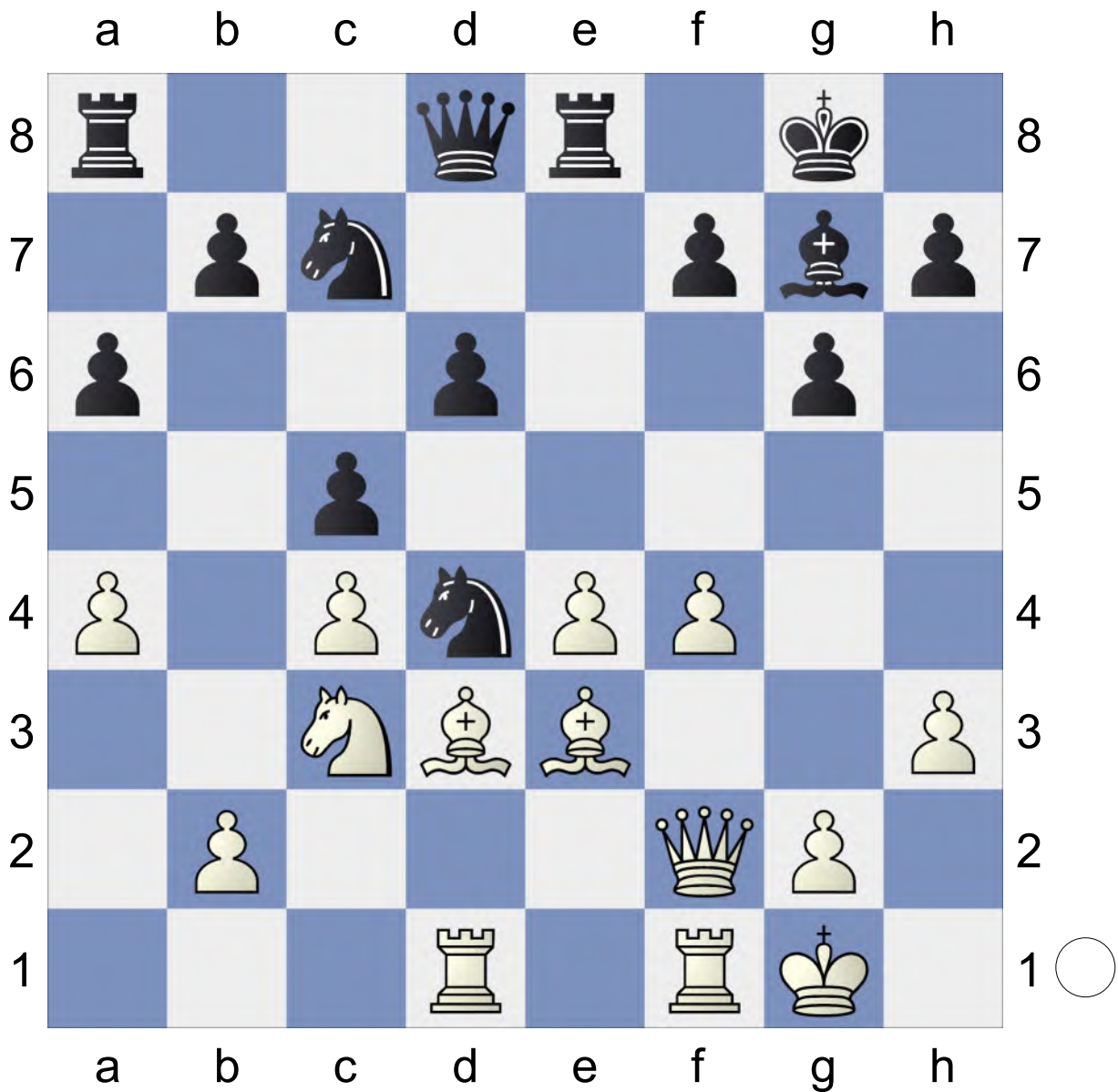
[24...a6]
 25.Rab1 Be5 26.Rxd3 Rf6 Calmly defending d6, although it wasn't really attacked.
 [26...a6! 27.Nc7 (27.Nxd6 Rad8) 27...Ra7 28.Ne6 Re8 29.Nc7 Rc8 30.Nd5
 b5 wins.]
 27.Rf3 Rxf3 28.gxf3 Rf8 29.Nxa7 Rxf3 30.Rxb7 Rc3 31.Nc6 Rc1+
 [31...Bf4!]
 32.Kg2 Rc2+ 33.Kf3 Bxh2 34.a4 Rc3+ 35.Kg2 Rc2+ 36.Kf3 Rc3+ 37.Kg2 Bf4
 38.a5 Ra3 Keeping control of the a-pawn.
 [38...Rxc4?? 39.a6 Ra4 40.a7 and Black has to find c4! to draw.]
 39.Rb8 h5 40.Rf8 Kg5 41.Rg8+ Kf5 42.Ne7+ Ke4 43.Nc6 Ra2+ 44.Kh1 Kf3
 To add to his woes White's king is in a mating net. 0-1 (44) Ortega Serra,M
 (2288)-Dragnev,V (2564) Sitges ESP 2020 [Vigorito,D]

¹⁰¹ **9...Nc6** 10.f5

[10.0-0
A) 10...Bg4 11.h3 Bxf3 12.Qxf3 Nd4 13.Qf2 a6 (13...Nd7 14.g4 g5
 15.fxg5 Ne5 16.Qg3± Black has difficulties reaching full equality. V. Inkiov - I.
 Mutschnik, Ditzingen 2006) 14.Be3 Re8 15.Rae1 Nd7 16.Kh1 Rb8 17.Nd5±
 White has a lasting advantage. M. Turov - S. Kljucharev, Sochi 2007;
B) 10...Na5 11.Qe2 Re8 12.Bd2 Nc6 (12...d5 13.cxd5 Bxd5 14.Nxd5
 Nxd5 15.e5± M. Turov - E. Berg, Maastricht 2011) 13.Rae1 a6 14.b3 b5]
 10...Bd7! 10...Bd7 scores better than 10...Bc8. 10...Ld7 punktet besser als 10...Lc8.
 The main line 10...Bd7 scores better than 10...Bc8. Die Hauptvariante 10...Ld7
 punktet besser als 10...Lc8. 11.0-0 Ng4 Vorgänger: 12.Bg5
 [12.h3N Nge5 13.Nxe5 Bxe5 14.Nd5 Qh4 15.Qg4 Qxg4 16.hxg4 f6 17.Rb1
 g5 18.Be3 Be8 19.a3 Bf7 20.b4 b6 21.Bc2 Bd4 22.Bxd4 Nxd4 23.Bd3 Bxd5
 24.exd5 Rfe8 25.Kf2 Re7 26.Rfe1 Rae8 27.Rxe7 Rxe7 28.b5 Kf7 29.Rh1
 Ke8 30.Re1 Rxe1 31.Kxe1 Nb3 32.Ke2 Na5 33.Ke3 Nb7 34.Be2 Nd8 35.Kf2
 Nf7 36.Kg3 Ne5 37.Kh3 Ke7 38.Kh2 Kf7 39.Kg3 Kg7 40.Kf2 Nd7 41.Ke3
 Kf8 42.Ke4 Ne5 43.Ke3 Ke7 44.Ke4 Kd7 45.Ke3 Kc7 46.Ke4 Kb7 47.Ke3
 a6 48.a4 a5 49.Ke4 Kc7 50.Ke3 Kd7 51.Ke4 Ke7 52.Ke3 Kf7 53.Ke4 Kg7
 54.Ke3 h5 55.Kf2 hxg4 56.g3 Kh6 57.Ke3 Nf3 58.Bxf3 gxf3 59.g4
 ½-½ (59) Leon Acevedo,J (1829)-Aspiazu Sibiri,M (2067) Sabaneta 2022]
 12...Bf6
 [12...Bd4+ 13.Kh1 f6 14.Bf4 Bxc3 15.bxc3 Nge5 16.Be2 Be8 17.Qd2 g5
 18.Bg3 Rf7 19.Rad1 Rd7 1-0 (43) Ponkratov,P (2659)-Yakubboev,N (2621)
 Chess.com INT 2021]
 13.Bf4N
 [Vorgänger: 13.Qd2 Nce5 14.Bxf6 Qxf6 15.Nd5 Nxf3+ 16.gxf3 Qd4+ 17.Kh1
 Nf6 18.Rad1 Nxd5 19.cxd5 Kh8 0-1 Zhukova,N (2338)-Halkias,S (2563) Titled
 Tuesday intern op 03rd Nov blitz 2020 (2)]
 13...Nce5 14.Nd5 Bh8 15.Kh1 Bc6 16.Bg5 f6 17.Nxe5 Nxe5 18.Be3 Bxd5
 19.exd5 Bg7 20.Rb1 a5 21.Qc2 g5 22.Be2 Qe8 23.Bd2 h5 24.Qd1 g4 25.Qe1

Nf7 26.Qf2 Bh6 27.Bc3 Ne5 28.Rfe1 b6 29.Qg3 Ra7 30.b3 Rg7 31.a3 Qd7
 32.Rf1 Bg5 33.Qf2 Re8 34.b4 axb4 35.axb4 Qa4 36.bxc5 bxc5 37.Rb6 Nxc4
 38.Rc6 Ne3 39.Ra1 Qc2 40.Be1 Nxc2 41.Bd1 Rxe1+ 42.Qxe1 Nxe1 43.Bxc2
 Nxc2 44.Ra8+ Kh7 45.Rxd6 Re7 46.Re6 Rd7 47.d6 Nd4 48.Re7+ 1-0 (48)
 Ponkratov,P (2595)-Averyanov,G (2135) St Petersburg 2023

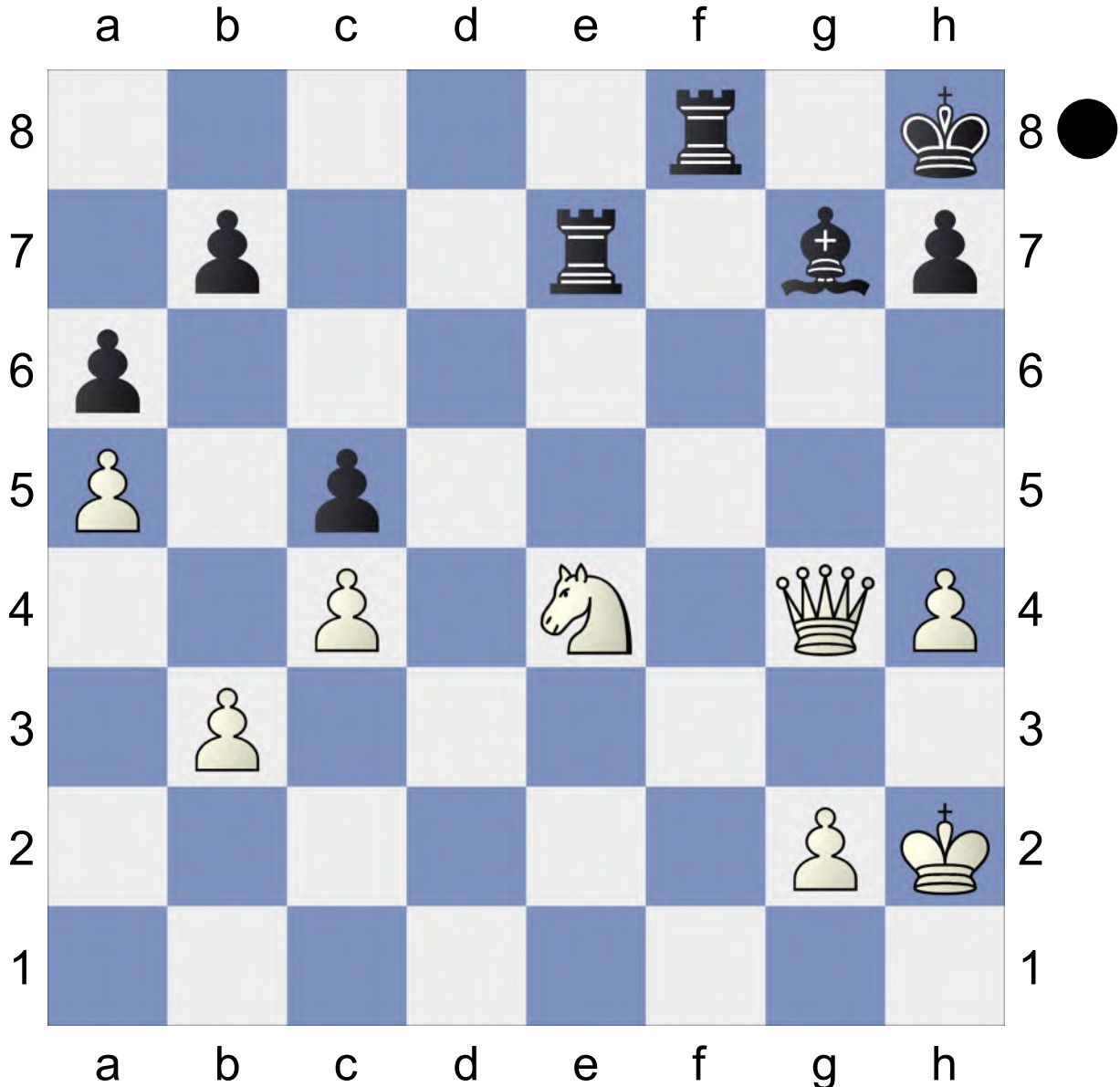
¹⁰² **10.0-0** 10.h3 is vanishing. 10.h3 scheint zu verschwinden. 10...Nc6 11.Be3
 [11.h3 Bxf3 12.Qxf3 Nd4 13.Qf2 Ne8 (13...Re8 - 82/499) 14.Be3N (14.f5
 Be5 15.Bh6 Nf6 16.Bxf8 Qxf8 17.Qh4 Qg7_≡) 14...Nc7 15.Rad1 a6 16.a4
 (16.f5 Be5 17.Bh6 Re8 18.fxc6 fxc6 19.Qf7+ Kh8_∞) 16...Re8 Diagram



17.e5! dxe5 18.f5

A) 18...Qd7 19.g4 b6 (19...gxf5?! 20.Bxf5±) 20.Bg5↑ f6?! 21.fxc6 hxc6
 (21...fxg5 22.Qf7+-) 22.Bxf6 Rf8 23.Qh4±;

B) 18...e4 19.Bxe4 Qf6 20.Bf4 Qb6 21.Kh1 (21.Bh2 gxf5 22.Bxf5 Rf8 23.Kh1±) 21...gxf5 22.Bxf5 Nxf5 23.Bxc7 Qxc7 24.Qxf5 Re5 25.Qg4 Qc6 26.Rd7 (26.Nd5 Rf8 27.Qh4±) 26...Qe6 27.Rxf7 (27.Qxe6 fxe6 28.Rxb7 Rf8 29.Rd1 h5 30.a5±) 27...Qxf7 (27...Qxg4 28.hxg4 Re1+ 29.Kh2 Be5+ 30.g3 Rd8 31.Nd5 Rxd7 32.Rxd7 Re2+ 33.Kh3 Rxb2 34.a5±) 28.Rxf7 Kxf7 29.Ne4 Kg8 30.a5 (30.h4 Rf8 31.Kh2 Kh8 32.g3±) 30...Rf8 31.Kh2?! (31.h4 Kh8 32.b3 Re7 33.g3±) 31...Kh8 32.h4 Re7 33.b3 Diagram



Rf4!= 34.Qc8+ Rf8 35.Qg4 Rf4 36.Qc8+ Rf8 37.Qg4 Rf4 ½-½ (37)

Quesada Perez,L (2491)-Makarian,R (2403) Marianske Lazne 2020 [Arsovic, Goran]]

11...a6 12.h3 Bxf3 13.Qxf3 Nd4

[13...Rb8 - 82/(499)]

14.Bxd4N

[Predecessor: 14.Qf2 b5

A) 15.cxb5 axb5 16.a3 (16.Bxd4? Nxe4!-+) 16...Rb8∞;

B) 15.a3 Arsovic,Goran: 'N' 15...Rb8 16.f5 Nc6 17.cxb5 Ne5 18.Rad1
(18.Be2 axb5 19.Bxb5 Rxb5 20.Nxb5 Nxe4 21.Qc2 d5 22.Rad1 c4
23.Nc3 Nxc3 24.bxc3 Nd3 25.Bd4 Bxd4+ 26.cxd4 Qh4 27.Rxd3 cxd3
28.Qxd3±) 18...Nfg4 19.Qe2 (19.hxg4 Nxg4 20.f6! Nxf2 21.fxg7 Nxd1
22.gxf8Q+ Kxf8 23.Rxd1 axb5 24.Bxb5±) 19...Nxe3 20.Qxe3 ½-½ Herrmann,
R (2129)-Sanhueza,C (2289) ARG-ch sf 95th 2020 (4)]

14...cxd4 15.Nd5 Nxd5 16.cxd5 Rc8 17.Qe2 Rc5 18.Kh2 Qe7 19.Rac1 Rfc8
20.Qd2 Bh6 21.g3 g5 22.Rxc5 Rxc5 23.f5 Bg7 24.Rc1 Be5 25.a4 h5 26.Rxc5
dxc5 27.Kg2 Kh7 28.Qe2 Kh6 29.Bc2 h4 30.gxh4 gxh4 31.Qd2+ Qg5+
32.Qxg5+ Kxg5 33.b3 Kf4 34.Kf2 b5 35.axb5 axb5 36.Bd3 c4 37.bxc4 bxc4
38.Bxc4 Kxe4 39.d6 Bxd6 40.Bxf7 d3 41.Ke1 Bb4+ 42.Kd1 Kxf5 43.Bh5 Kf4
44.Bg4 Ke3 ½-½ (44) Rosol,P (1839)-Bartos,V (2019) Ceske Budejovice 2023

¹⁰³ **13.Bb1** Qe7N

[Vorgänger: 13...a6 14.0-0 Qa5 15.e5 dxe5 16.Qxb7 Rad8 17.fxe5 Nd7
18.Bg5 Nxe5 19.Bxd8 Qxd8 ½-½ Ghyselen,W (2103)-Willen,R (1862) BEL-ch op
Antwerp 2013 (3)]

14.a3 Nc6 15.0-0 a6 16.Bc2 Rac8 17.Rad1 Na5 18.b3 Rc6 19.f5 Rc7 20.Bg5
Rd7 21.Nd5 Qe5 22.Bxf6 Bxf6 23.fxg6 Bd8 24.gxh7+ Kh8 25.Qg4 f5 26.Rxf5
Qg7 27.Rxf8+ Qxf8 28.Qxd7 Bf6 29.Nxf6 Qxf6 30.Qe8+ Kg7 31.Qg8+
1-0 Zabron,Maksym-Wasik,Roman/POL-chT 2nd League 2023